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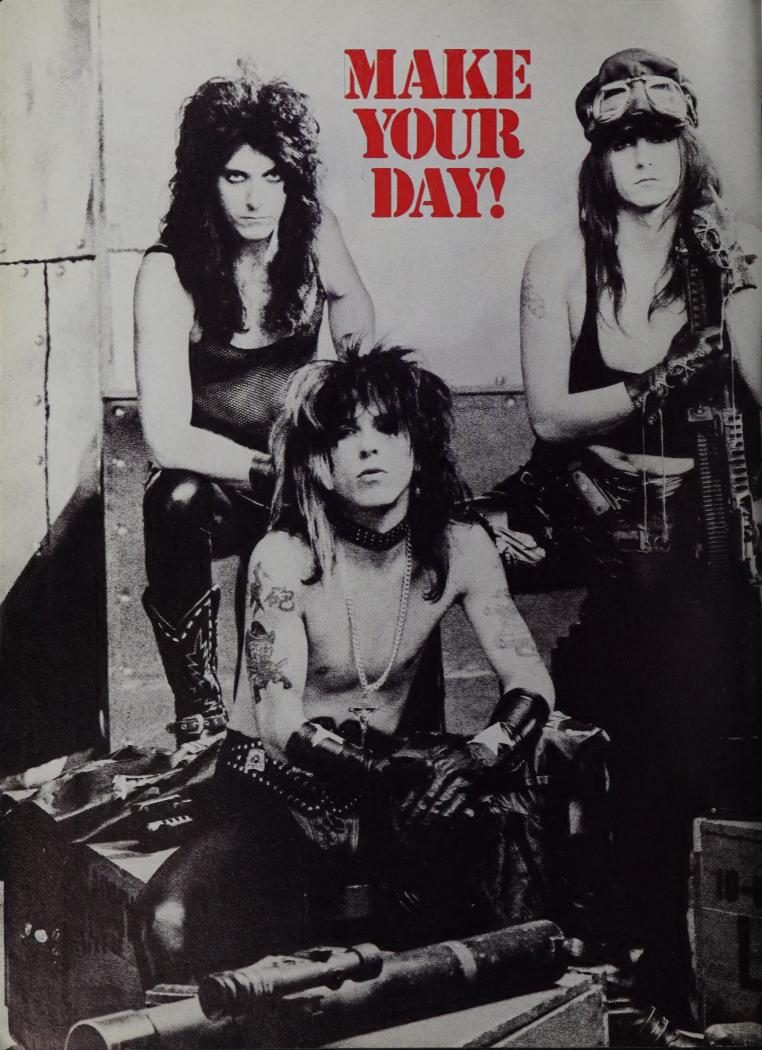
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#### **FEATURES**

- ALICE COOPER Screaming In The Night 10
- 13 Make Your Day! Enter The L.A. Guns Double Barrel Contest
- 14 **MEGADETH** Days Of Destiny
- 22 KISS Beginning Of The End?
- **DAVID LEE ROTH** Flying High Again 30
- STRYPER Love 'Em Or Hate 'Em 38
- 40 **QUEENSRYCHE** Mind Over Matter
- IRON MAIDEN The Machine Rolls On 42
- **BON JOVI** Sambora Speaks Out 44
- 52 **DEF LEPPARD** The Five Musketeers
- 54 JUDAS PRIEST At The Crossroads
- 58 **POISON** Sitting Pretty
- 60 **DOKKEN** Rock's Fastest Guns
- **EUROPE** Taking On The World 62
- MICHAEL MONROE Life After Hanoi 64
- 66 **TESLA** Learning Their Lessons
- 70 CINDERELLA A Time Of Decision



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#### **DEPARTMENTS**

- ROOTS: Metallica's Lars Ulrich
- THE INFORMATION CENTER The Latest Metal News!
- OUT TO LUNCH: The Scorpions 12
- CAUGHT IN THE ACT: Motley Crue 18
- 20 PICK HIT: Leatherwolf
- 24 WE READ YOUR MAIL
- 32 HEAVY METAL HAPPENINGS The Hottest Metal Gossip
- 50 CENTERFOLD: Aerosmith's Steven Tyler
- 56 LIVE ON STAGE: Whitesnake
- CELEBRITY RATE-A-RECORD: McAuley Schenker Group
- 72 INDIE REVIEWS The Best In New Metal
- INSTRUMENTALLY SPEAKING 95
- STAR TALK 98

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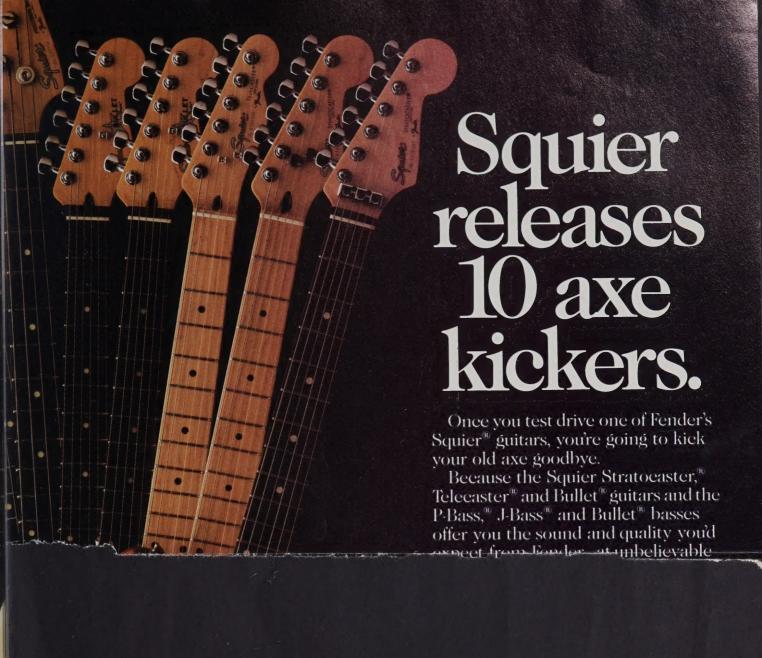
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## LARS ULRICH

#### by Winston Cummings

Each month *Hit Parader* sojourns back in time to explore the formative years of rock's biggest stars. This issue's time traveler is Metallica's hard-living drummer, Lars Ulrich.

Next time you stroll into your favorite neighborhood hangout and want to win a few bucks from your friends on a bet, try asking 'em this one: who's the only Danish-born, former tennis pro who's currently playing drums in a major heavy metal band? By now, you've probably figured out the answer isn't Bobby Blotzer. In fact, the correct answer to our surewin bet is none other than Metallica's skinbeater, Lars Ulrich.

"Yeah, I guess I am the only drummer around who fits that description," loquacious Lars said with a broad smile. "I played tennis throughout my teen years, and I guess I was pretty good, but then as you get older and move up in competition, you realize you might not be good enough. There are lots of really good tennis players out there, and those guys seem to live, eat and breathe tennis. I always had other interests — like playing drums and listening to

rock and roll. I guess the fact is that the life of a musician — staying up late and jamming 'til dawn — isn't the right life for an athlete. But I know I made the right decision in giving up tennis and turning to music."

Ironically, one of Lar's reasons for foregoing the opportunity to hit fuzzy balls for the chance to bang his drum kit was that he was frequently injured as a tennis player. The irony is that during his stint with Metallica, Lars has suffered from his fair share of injuries as well. A list of his aches and pains would include a broken foot, plus countless arm and hand injuries incurred by his fierce drumming style. But, perhaps because of his athletic background, Ulrich has learned that living with pain is just a part of life.

"When we're on the road, there's always something that hurts," he said. "Maybe it's your hand from getting blisters or your head from drinking too much the day before. But it's really not that bad. This band has had more than its share of injuries over the years, and actually, I've probably had less bad things happen to me than anyone else in the band. James [Hetfield] has broken his arm a couple of times skateboarding, and even Kirk [Hammett] has ended up with his share of black and blue marks. But we're an aggressive band and we live an aggressive life, so we accept what happens to us as the breaks

of the game."

Despite the pain the band has suffered during their five-year history (most notably the tragic bus crash in 1986 in which bassist Cliff Burton was killed), today all seems right in the land of Metallica. With their recent EP, Garage Days Rerevisited, approaching "platinum" sales status, their home video, Cliff 'Em All, emerging as one of the most popular clips in that genre's history, and work on their next LP moving along at a slow-but-steady pace, Ulrich feels that Metallica is on the verge of becoming rock's next big thing.

"We hear a lot of people saying that 1988 is gonna be a very good year for us, and we're not gonna argue with them," he said with a smile. 'But we're not the kind of guys to sit back and think we have things under control just because some people think we're happening. We've seen how quick things can change in this world, so we'll never take anything for granted. It is nice to know that people have a lot of confidence in us right now, because we do as well. But we're not gonna sit back and wait for things to happen we're gonna go and make them happen. It's not our style to get off on the good things people are saying about us. We figure these same people might call us shit a year from now. We're determined to see that that doesn't happen."

Lars Ulrich: "The life of a musician just isn't the right life for an athleta."

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## INFORMATION CENTER

Is there trouble brewing in the Cinderella camp? It seems that during the recording of the band's new LP, Long Cold Winter, drummer Fred Coury got somewhat disgusted with Tom Keifer's decision to utilize drum machines on a number of the album's tracks. To soothe his "wounds," Coury decided to split the band's Philadelphia recording scene and join Guns N' Roses for their dates on the European tour. (GNR had lost their drummer, Steven Adler, when he unadvisedly punched a wall). "There's really no problem with Fred," insisted Keifer. "At least none that I know of."

Keep your eyes open for **Deep Purple**'s upcoming live album. Contrary to some reports, the album will probably *not* be called **Made In The U.S.A.** (Remember, earlier Purple live discs were entitled **Made In Japan** and **Made In Europe**). "We don't know what we'll call this thing," said bassist

Roger Glover. "Maybe we'll just put it out there with a blank cover and let everyone make up their own title."

Whitesnake's David Coverdale insists he has now totally recovered from the intestinal virus which forced him to cancel his band's recent German tour. The illness, which put the charismatic singer in the hospital for nearly two weeks, was diagnosed as being caused by a mixture of exhaustion and bad weather. "I am susceptible to things like this," Coverdale stated. "Certain infections seem to find my system quite palatable."

Ozzy Osbourne is having difficulties getting the movie "bug" out of his system. "It's my ego," the Oz said. "I think anyone who's ever gotten on stage in front of people thinks he can act. What I'm learning though is that

movie people are even more fucked up than music people. They can drive even *me* crazy — and that's saying something."

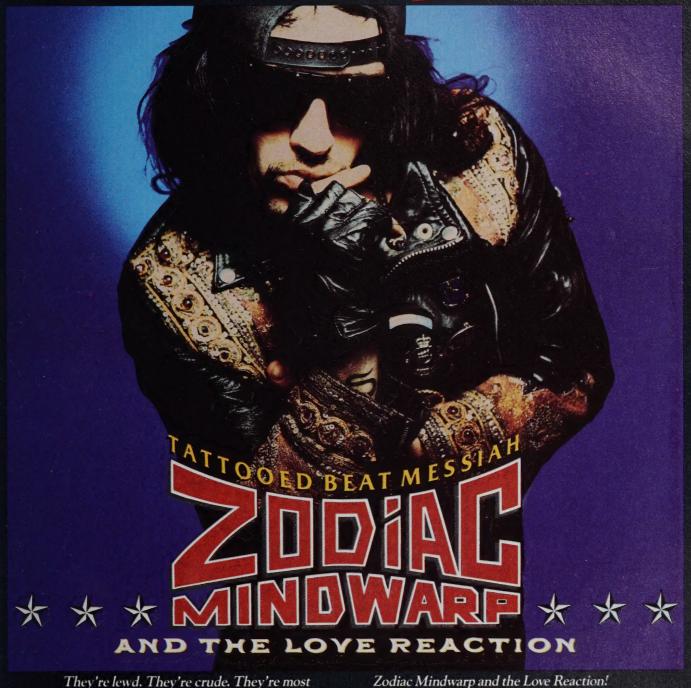
**FLASH...** All you women out there can relax. Nikki Sixx and Vanity have split up. Their scheduled wedding has been officially cancelled and Mr. Sixx is once again on the loose.

#### **TIDBITS AND ASIDES**

Have Yngwie Malmsteen and new vocalist Joe Lynn Turner kissed and made up?... Is Sammy Hagar pushing Edward Van Halen to write more hard rock tunes for the band's upcoming LP?... Will Robert Plant be performing Led Zeppelin material on his next solo tour?... Is Motley Crue planning an extensive break from recording and touring?□



## Get warped!



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## Screaming In The Night

## Original Metal Madman Returns To Top Form With Raise Your Fist And Yell.

#### by Rob Andrews

Alice Cooper is a rock and roll original. During his 18-year career, he's been called every name in the book — madman, martyr, genius, ghoul. But the bottom line may well be that Cooper remains one of the most inventive, if bizarre, forces in the rock world — a fact proven once again on his new LP, Raise Your Fist And Yell. Making music for the Coop isn't merely plugging in the guitars and cranking it up. For this 40-year-old Phoenix resident, music is a celebration of both sight and sound, a place where visual impact plays just as vital a role as sonic overkill.

"I've always viewed rock and roll as a medium where you could be outrageous in a number of areas," Cooper explained. "The music can be wild, but the stage show can be just as crazy if you have the imagination to create something exciting. That's where I've always excelled. Musically, I think I've had some influence on what's going on in rock today, but visually I know I've had a major impact."

Over the years, such Cooper stage props as a guillotine, chopped-up dolls, a hangman's noose, walking monsters and ritualistic blood-and-guts celebrations have made Alice a figure both lauded and disdained. To his fans, he's the ultimate showman, a macabre character who brings together the best elements of heavy metal, splatter movies and theatre. To his enemies, he's little more than an evil force that must be stopped — a demented madman who is a menace to everyone's children. While Alice finds this latter attitude somewhat amusing, he chose to tackle the subject seriously on his new LP's first track, Freedom.

"It was just time that somebody answered those people who view rock and roll as something totally negative," Cooper said. "What bothers me is that their basic premise is that kids in America are too stupid to know what they're listening to. That's a real condemnation not only of the kids, but their parents as well. Those antirock groups want to convince everyone that kids are being manipulated through music, that they're being told to do things that are dangerous and sinful. But those kids are a lot sharper than they're given credit for - they've had to battle against being manipulated all their lives. They've had everything from the media to school trying to get them to think and act a certain way, and it usually hasn't worked. On Freedom, we wanted to have a bit of fun with that whole anti-rock phenomenon. Alice Cooper doesn't preach about things like that, he just makes fun of it."

Making fun of controversial topics has been

Cooper's stock-in-trade since he first burst upon the rock scene in 1970. With his wild makeup, tattered leather clothes and high-energy songs, Cooper became an immediate sensation through such tongue-in-cheek anthems as School's Out, Eighteen and Elected. His fame and fortune soared throughout the '70s, but by the end of that decade, Cooper found himself burnt out—an alcoholic who was no longer battling to salvage his career, but rather to save his life. Happily, after years of rehabilitation, Cooper reports that his health—and his music—are back stronger than ever.

"I have so much more energy now," he said.
"I went through some rough times a few years back, but those are behind me. As soon as I got my body and mind together, I was able to tap even stranger, sicker areas than ever before. I'm in a hundred times better shape now than I've ever been in my life, and that means two things:

that my music will be more energetic and that my mind will be sicker than ever before."

Cooper's mind was evidently working overtime when he created the stage presentation he's used on his Raise Your Fist And Yell tour. Always a big fan of horror movies — especially those flicks featuring guts and gore — Alice has incorporated his fondness for splatter with his love for rock and roll. The results have left the fans both shocked and rocked.

"I don't want to ruin anything for those who haven't seen the show yet," Cooper said with a devilish grin, "but let's just say this show takes things to the limit. It's a very Gothic show with a lot of graveyard imagery. Also, I'd like to warn anyone sitting in the first few rows to wear red clothing. If they don't, they might have some explaining to do when they get home with blood stains all over themselves."



Alice Cooper: "The people coming to my show had better wear red clothes — or they'll have to explain the blood stains later."



## Scorpions

#### by Jodi Summers

Does food really make the man? Each month Hit Parader sets out to find out as we take rock's biggest stars out to lunch. This month's lunch munchers are those teutonic terrors. The Scorpions.

It's twilight. We're sitting on the terrace at Dieter Dierks studios in Pulheim, Germany. The air is refreshing. Stars are just beginning to become apparent in the deep blue sky. The Scorps' bassman Francis Buchholz rattles his head. He is just shaking off the day's hangover.

In the mean time, fretmaster Matthias Jabs is

preparing tomorrow's headache.

Inside in one of the studios, Rudolf Schenker and producer Deiter Dierks are checking monitor levels, trying to get the Scorpions long awaited new album to sound just perfect.

Rumor has it the band's wild man drummer Herman "Ze German" Rarebell is in Monte Carlo with his lovely new wife Annemarie.

'Herman got married... again,'' Francis comments, updating the world on what has gone on with the Scorpions since they last surfaced publicly, three years ago.

'She's a French girl, very nice," explains Klaus.

"All of us went to the wedding party," Matthias smiles. "First we thought we won't go, we'll go to the next one, but then we decided, okay, let's fly in."

Matthias pours shots of tequila, adds some ginger ale to it and passes the concoction around the table.

'I shouldn't drink, I had enough last night," declares Francis, refusing his glass. "I didn't go to sleep until nine o'clock this morning.'

Rudolf shows up just in time. "This is a good drink," he informs as he samples Matthias' concoction. "It puts you in a good mood." Everyone puts a coaster on top of the glass and slaps the drink on the table so it foams. Then they down them. Another round is rationed and consumed. Everyone leans back in their chair and smiles contentedly.

"I love all of the stories we read about us," Klaus comments in regard to all of the mythical album titles and rumors that have circulated about the Scorpions while they've been putting the finishing touches on the new album. "Ya. everyone has a title for the album... except us,' laughs Rudolf.

'It's the perfect time for these stories." Matthias adds. "It happens with every album. The press write things like Klaus is having problems with his voice, or what have you. The German magazines make up strange stories..."

Like Don Dokken's going to join the Scorpions?

Everyone breaks out laughing. Rudolf smiles, gets up and heads back to the control room.

"I remember all the Don Dokken rumors," Matthias reminisces about the time in 1982 when the Scorpions were recording the album Blackout and Klaus Meine developed vocal problems. Don was called in to do vocal demos. Matthias clarifies. "He was just singing backing vocals on one song, and he made a big fuss about it.

"He was recording in the studio next door," continues Francis. "They were doing recordings for their first album, with Juan Croucier and Peter Baltes.

Another round is guzzled down.

"To be honest, I started drinking very late," Matthias informs shyly. "Really late. I didn't like beer at all until I was 20 years old. Even when I joined the Scorpions I didn't drink beer, I didn't like it at all. Now I like it, I get drunk often.

At that moment Herman Ze German, looking all European chic in his purple shirt and green jacket, comes sauntering up. "Don't I look great?" he asks proudly, waiting to be complimented. "I lost 10 Kilos."

"He swims everyday, he lost weight, he's a perfect vacation man the way he lives now," informs Matthias with a grin.

'And it shows, doesn't it?" Herman boasts, flexing his muscles.

"Herman doesn't drink anymore," states Matthias somberly. Everyone bursts into guffaws of laughter as Matthias mixes a drink and pushes it Herman's way.□



Scorpions' Rudolf Schenker: "This is a good drink — it puts me in a good mood."

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Mustaine's Men Put The Pedal To The Metal On So Far, So Good... So What.

#### by Ernie "Spuds" McKenzie

Megadeth's Dave Mustaine is a guy with a lot on his mind. Now, we're certainly not implying that the creative fires weren't always burning full-force under Dangerous Dave's mop of blond hair. But when Megadeth's megamouth gets his vocal orifice going at top speed in front of a tape recorder, what emerges is a stream-of-consciousness rap that touches on everything from world disorder to the current state of rock and roll. In fact, it really doesn't matter what question is posed to Mustaine — Dave might answer it if he so chooses, but he's just as likely to head off into the intellectual ozone where only thrash masters of infinite wisdom can visit. Don't believe us? Well check this out:

Did you ever happen to notice the name Ronald Wilson Reagan?" Dave asked. "I don't mean who he is, everyone knows

that. But did you ever notice that his name is made up of three combinations of six letters — 666? People should realize how near Reagan has gotten us to Armageddon — that time when the world literally comes to an end. It's been said that Armageddon will occur when the antichrist reappears. Now I'm not stupid enough to tell people that Ronald Reagan is the antichrist, but that stuff with his name and some of his actions make you wonder. It's a little scary, don't you think? This guy's got us all on the verge of the Big Nuke Dance — and I didn't even bring a date."

No doubt about it, Mustaine will never be criticized for not putting his true feelings on the line. But what would one expect from a man who makes no bones about the fact he's convinced his band will sell a million copies of their latest LP, **So Far, So Good... So What?**, and will be playing major arenas across the country — and selling them out, of course — before you can say

Yngwie J. Malmsteen? Mustaine may talk big, but he's shown he does have the musical goods to back up his verbal outrageousness. In the three years since he was kicked out of Metallica for his party-hearty attitude, Dave has built up Megadeth from a local club attraction into one of the biggest bands on the power metal scene. His success comes as little surprise, especially to Mustaine.

"Simple bands don't dent the rock and roll history books," Dave said. "That's one of the reasons we're a little more elaborate in the way we approach our music. We pack every song with enough stuff to make four or five songs. That's the way to make an impact. When that rock history book is written, we want to have a whole chapter about us. We'll leave a footnote in the thrash metal section to other bands. I want people to know exactly what our intentions are. I want this band to be a legend.

I want to open that history book up to where the legend section is and see my ugly mug staring out at everybody.

It's logical to wonder what really motivates this human quote machine. Can it be that the lure of fame, fortune and great rock and roll has turned Mustaine into heavy metal's answer to a wrestling bad guy — a dude everyone just loves to hate? Actually, Dave feels that his motivations are quite simple, at least until you dig a bit beneath his apparently

happy facade.

look at my primary roles on this planet as playing guitar and having a real good time," he said. "But while Megadeth is primarly about having a good time, I'd like to think that we're helping kids expand their minds at the same time. I don't like it when people think a band like ours has to be simple-minded. I look at our songs like Aesop's Fables — there's a moral in every tune. We're out there letting the kids know about what's really going on in the world. We're not trying to tell anyone what's right or wrong; that's not our thing. What we're doing is just presenting the pros and cons about important issues and then letting people make up their own minds.

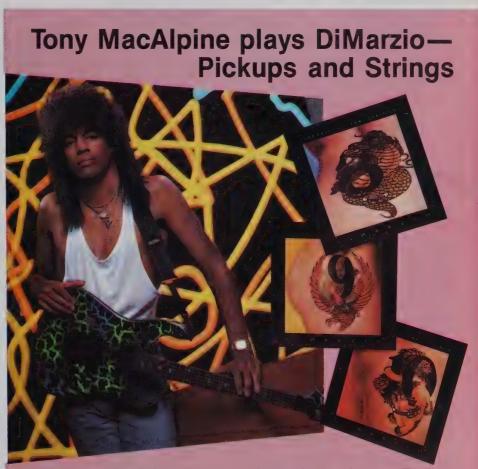
Actually, Mustaine's social consciousness is reflected in just about everything his band does — including their name. Though, according to legend, he chose Metallica as the name of his first band because it combined his two favorite things — metal and vodka — he chose the name Megadeth for a much more omi-

nous reason.

"The word 'megadeath' means mass annihilation," Dave explained. "I first saw the word when I was living in California a few years ago, and the senator out there, Alan Cranston, had sent out a handbill that said, 'the arsenal of megadeath can't be gotten rid of no matter what the peace treaties come to'. I just fell in love with the term 'arsenal of megadeath'. I found out the term was used in reference to the body count after a nuclear war — it's a million deaths. That whole concept got to me, so I wrote a song called Megadeth which really went after people and governments with too much authority the people who can bring about megadeath.

Mustaine's tradition of avoiding "I love you, baby" lyrics continues on Megadeth's latest LP. With songs touching on subjects as diverse as politics, war and a variety of other social ills, Mustaine has once again set himself up as the spokesman for the disenfranchised youth of the world. It's a position with which he feels totally at home.

'Believe it or not, I have no intention of trying to change the world," Dave said. "But I do want to try and make people aware of things that can have a major impact on their lives. Those things can be both good and bad, but they are things everyone should be made aware of. We're trying to deal with things that are a little deeper than what the average band does, but no one ever said we were an average band. There's so much going on in the world right now, kids need someone who can stay on top of things. We're not scared to tackle controversial subjects and get people a little mad. That's what this band is really all about. We're Megadeth, which means we can do whatever the fuck we want."



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### CAUGHT in the act

## Motley Crue

#### by Rick Hunter

Backstage at a Motley Crue concert is unlike anyplace else on the face of the earth. Part Black Hole of Calcutta, part whorehouse and part football locker room, behind the scenes with Motley is nothing if not a three-ring circus and carnival freak show rolled into one. Only at a Crue concert can one witness a horde of conservatively-dressed record execs mingling with a bevy of painted ladies whose sole mission in life seems to be to meet and greet Nikki Sixx, Vince Neil, Tommy Lee and Mick Mars. And there are enough leather-clad friends, foes and hangers-on to make one wonder if every cow in North America hasn't been slaughtered for a piece of its pelt. It's a bizarre scene, to say the least, but Motley Crue wouldn't have it any other

"Man, it really has been crazy out on the road this time," Sixx exclaimed. "Every year we head out and think things might be different, but they aren't. If anything, things get wilder each year. But we don't do much to discourage it. This year we've got a 'hostility' room backstage where we can hang out and invite some of the strippers who've been coming to the shows to give us a private exhibition. It's been great."

Perhaps so many clothes-shedding young lasses have been coming to Motley's latest road jaunt because the band's latest LP, Girls, Girls, Girls, glorifies strip clubs all over the world. As if in honor of this, at least half the audience each night has been comprised of full-figured young ladies only too anxious to show their wares to the boys in the band.

"Hey, can you get me backstage?" one scantily-clad vixen asked this intrepid reporter shortly before showtime. "I've got something I really want to show Nikki — and I know he'll love it." When asked what she wanted to show Mr. Sixx, the buxom young thing casually dropped the top half of her outfit, exposing a pair of "water wings" that could keep her afloat for months.

Although the Cruesters have been enjoying their fans "generosity" as often as possible, this has been a different sort of tour for Motley. With Lee married to actress Heather Locklear, Sixx engaged to Vanity, and both Mars and Neil admitting to being in "serious" relationships, those around the Crue camp have noted that the boys have been slightly better behaved this time around. Perhaps the presence of Heather and Vanity at a number of road stops has already convinced some band members that they've already emerged as big winners in the heiferhunting derby.

"Why should I be going crazy with other women when I already have the most beautiful wife in the world?" Lee asked. "That would be kind of stupid — especially with all the disease shit that's going around. I'm not saying any of us

are angels, but I think our fun has taken a few new, strange twists."

Certainly one of the most entertaining elements of this tour for the Crue has been going onstage each night and playing some of the best rock and roll music around. Though they'll never be critic's darlings, the Motley gang note that their current world tour finds them playing better than ever. Sixx, in particular, was anxious to explain that the band's music should never be overshadowed by their wild-men image.

"I think people are really listening to what we're playing this time, and I know some of them are really surprised by how good we are," he said. "Mick has been playing the best guitar he's ever played, and he's doing it every night. He never has an off night. Neither does Tommy or Vince. We've treated each show like it's the last one we'll ever play. I think the fans have sensed our commitment, and they've really gotten off on it. And as they've gotten off, they've gotten us off as well."



Nikki Sixx & Vince Neil: "It's really been crazy out on the road."



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## I EATHERWOIL

#### Triple-Guitar Attack Marks L.A. Unit As Band On The Rise.

#### by Rob Andrews

Back in the mid-1960s when metal was young, the "guitar hero" was all the rage. Every band from Cream to Led Zeppelin needed an Eric Clapton or a Jimmy Page to ignite the crowd's frenzied response. As the metal form matured, bands like Judas Priest and Iron Maiden established the concept of the "guitar tandem" - two ace axe-slingers who nightly battled it out for supremacy. Now, evidently, a new era is about to dawn on the hard rock scene, at least if Leatherwolf has anything to say about it. This West Coast quintet employs the services of no less than three highly competent guitarists fact that makes the group's self-titled debut LP a feast for guitar aficionados of all kinds.

"We have a real unique way of approaching our music," said one of the axe-slingers, Michael Olivieri, who also doubles as Leatherwolf's lead vocalist. "Each of the guitarists in this band has a different set of influences. One of us is into someone like Randy Rhoads, while another is into a jazz-fusion player like Al DiMeola. What we've done is take all those varied influences and combined them into Leatherwolf. We're a band that's heavy, but we have subtlety and imagination too.

Olivieri first joined forces with guitar partners Geoffrey Gayer and Carey Howe, and with

drummer Dean Roberts when they were all still high school students in Orange County, California in 1982. At that time, the band's bassist was a guy named Matt Hurich, but when Hurich split in 1986 for an extremely brief stint with Stryper, Leatherwolf recruited Paul Carmen, who Olivieri says fit into the group "like a glove." Once their lineup was solidified, the band hit the always-crowded Southern California club circuit. With their unique "guitar army" and their hardhitting sound, the band soon carved out a special place for themselves.

'We've always been a little different," Gayer explained. "There are so many different styles we feel comfortable playing that the fans - and sometimes even we - never know exactly where a show is going. We have numbers that headbang with the best of 'em, songs that have people literally jumping onto and then off the stage. But because we look fairly good and have a few softer songs, we get some of the glam and melodic metal crowd too. I guess the bottom line is that Leatherwolf has something for everyone.'

This diversified approach is evident on the band's debut disc, which they recorded in the Bahamas a few months back with Kevin Beamish (of Y&T and REO Speedwagon fame) at the production helm. From the hard-edged rhythms of The Calling to the intricately textured melodies of Rise Or Fall. Leatherwolf put their varied tastes to maximum use throughout the record. Perhaps the album's most distinctive characteristic, however, is Olivieri's multifaceted vocal approach, which seems to transform to fit each new musical nuance the band brings forth.

"I like to think of myself as a vocalist who can do more than just scream over the guitars,' Olivieri said. "Just because we play metal doesn't mean that we have to be simple-minded in either our songs or our lyrics. We must have gone through dozens of arrangements before we hit upon the sound we wanted for each song. I worked the same way with my vocals; I wanted my approach to fit perfectly with the mood and style of the song.

Now that the LP is out and making some moves on the charts, Leatherwolf is anxious to bring their stage show to arenas all across America. Though the band members admit they haven't played too many shows in front of packed stadium crowds, they feel more than ready to meet the challenge. "All we need is for some big headliner to come along and give us a chance," Gayer explained. "If they do, they won't be sorry. We're pretty exciting up there. We don't need special effects or pyrotechnics. We have everything we need already with us, and that's the talent to play kick-ass rock and



Leatherwolf: "We have a real unique way of approaching our music."



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# Beginning Of The End?

Rock Veterans Overcome Difficulties To Regain Former Luster.



#### by Jerome Higgins

No one will ever get Paul Stanley or Gene Simmons to admit it, but the fact is that a few years ago Kiss was in big trouble. Their platinumcoated success in the '70s had deteriorated to the point where 1983's Music From The Elder barely turned a profit. And after seven years of stability, the band suddenly found itself caught in a nearconstant state of turmoil with drummer Peter Criss, then guitarist Ace Frehley, then his replacement Vinnie Vincent and his replacement Mark St. John all leaving the Kiss fold in rather rapid-succession. No question about it, Kiss was at a door-die moment in its career. Something drastic had to be done to revive the musical spirit of the single most popular American hard rock pand of the 70s. As always, Kiss found the solution to the problem.

First, off came the band's trademark makeup - perhaps the most recognizable symbol in the entire rock world. Then came the process of modernizing the group's sound, which had drifted precariously off course in the preceding years. Then came the difficult task of re-establishing the delicate internal chemistry which had always made Kiss so special. This was achieved by the hiring of guitarist Bruce Kulick, who joined Stanley, Simmons and drummer Eric Carr in 1985, just in time to record Asylum. From there, the Kiss juggernaut regained its speed, with a sold-out international tour and the kind of radio, television and magazine exposure that they hadn't experienced in nearly five years. Obviously it took more than good music to bring Kiss back from the brink of destruction. It took good luck, lots of talent, and, as Gene might say, it took balls.

"We did what had to be done," Simmons explained. "In our minds, Kiss has always been the best, but we've never been a band to say, 'Remember what we did a few years ago? We don't believe in excuses. We want every album and every tour to be the best we ve ever done. We're not scared to take some chances. Maybe that's the key to what makes this band special.

With the success of their latest LP, Crazy Nights, Kiss has certainly regained all the momentum they may have lost earlier in the decade. The LP rocketed into the Top 20 of the sales charts only weeks after its release last September and continued to climb once the band hit the tour trail in late October. The album's success proved once and

for all that Kiss is metal's ultimate chameleon - a band able to transform to meet the musical needs of any given era. Such songs as No, No, No and the band's first single Crazy, Crazy Nights combined the sing-along qualities that recently shot the likes of Bon Jovi to the top with Kiss' own ungine brand of musical mayhem.

'We put a lot of time and effort into the songs on this album, Stanley explained. "But the fact is a song like Crazy, Crazy Nights was really easy to write. Once the basic idea was there, it more or less wrote itself. I like to think that it's one of those songs that, once you hear it, you find yourself humming it as you walk down the street. It has that kind of appeal.'

Perhaps the key to Kiss' fresh musical attitude on Crazy Nights is the fact that the band utilized outside songwriters extensively throughout the album, as well as a producer — Ron Nevison, of Heart and Ozzy Osbourne fame - for the first time in nearly a decade.

'We didn't need Ron Nevison to give us a monster album," Simmons explained. "We've had those every time we've recorded. The reason you work with someone like that is

simply because you want to. We've known Ron for a long time, and we're very happy we worked with him. The bottom line is the results you achieve together — and we believe the results on Crazy Nights are just primo.

"It's fun working with songwriting collaborators," Stanley added. "We've done that before, and I think working with people you respect brings out the best in you. There were times when whoever I was working with was almost like a babysitter. They'd say, 'Hey, you can't go to the movies tonight, we've got work to do.' I'd been working on some of the material on this record for almost a year, so it was nice to have a little outside discipline thrown in.

Ironically, just as Kiss seem to be reaching the same multi-platinum level of success they enjoyed during their first "Golden Era" in the mid '70s, rumors have emerged that the band members are considering life after rock and roll. Both Stanley and Simmons have openly discussed their desire to get more heavily involved in producing other bands and acting, and — believe it or not there have already been rumors about where and when a Kiss

"farewell" show might be held. Though Simmons and company scoff at the notion that they will again don their makeup for one last show in the near future, they don't deny that outside interests have emerged in the Kiss scheme of life.

How could this be our last album?" Gene said with straightfaced sincerity. "We have a record contract to honor, and that calls for a minimum of six more albums from us. If we were to break that, we'd have all sorts of legal entanglements. Why would we want to do that? Let's just say this is definitely not the end of the road for Kiss. There's no way people could get rid of us that easily."

We're not going anyplace," Stanley added. "Any outside projects we take on — whether acting roles or production on some album — will in no way interfere with Kiss. Look, I really wanted to work with Poison on their second album. They wanted me to produce it, and I liked the idea of doing it. But the fact was that would have interfered with plans we had for Kiss. I couldn't let that happen. No matter what else we may choose to get ourselves involved in, Kiss will always come first."





Your December issue said that the '60s and 70s are dead. Where the hell do you get off saying that, man? The '60s and '70s had some awesome groups like Genesis, the Beatles, E.L.P. and Pink Floyd. You wouldn't know good music if it bit you on your ass. The groups today suck the big one, especially Bon Jovi. The thrash groups suck, too. Venom, Exodus and MOD couldn't play their instruments for a million

> Sincerely. Pissed Off

We love your magazine. Thank you 100 times for your articles on Def Leppard. My friend and I are absolutely addicted to Hysteria. We blast it

every chance we get. We'll read everything you print on Def Leppard. But why don't you ask the really inportant questions, like Is Joe, Elliott married?

> Zanna J.Q. Cortland, NY



Motley Crue's Vince Neil: Why does he only date models?

I have a teenaged daughter who is very much into heavy metal. Since my husband and I have always believed that she should be allowed to choose her own music — even if it differs from ours - we have never objected to her choice. Recently, a young man started lecturing her about joining a Fundamentalist church. He talked for about seven hours into the night. After allowing her to sleep for two hours, he took her to church with him. After spending all day listening to their philosophy, she was ready to join. The only thing that stopped her was the church's insistence that heavy metal was the 'devil's music". They really picked on Motley Crue, who just happens to be her favorite group. Thinking of her ticket to the upcoming Motley Crue concert, she was able to resist. I'll be forever grateful to Motley Crue for saving my daughter from being "saved"

Mrs. Dee Buck Sarasota, FL



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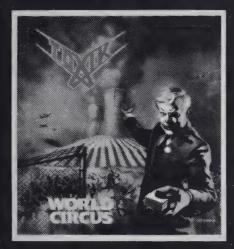
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i was walking home from a party one night with some friends. I saw two people arguing about who is the better band, AC/DC or Motley Crue. Then a fight broken out. Do you believe that? Hit Parader, tell these people the truth, that AC, DC's the best. And fuck the rest.

Dave Martin Dedham, MA

Why do rockers only date models and actresses? Are the lans not good enough for them? I guess looks are everything in a rock star's mind. And you'd never catch one of us in their videos. Suppose a miracle occurred and a lan did marry a rock star (because they knocked us up!), we'd be stuck at home changing diapers. Then they would deny they're married. Just ask Vince Neil's ex-wife. I did. I called vince s place in Redondo Beach (he has since moved) and she answered. She didn't sound too nappy. In fact she said, ''If you can find him, you can have him''. I don't think I want him.

A Female Headbanger in New Jersey

I've been reading **Hit Parader** for a while now, but I never see features of my favorite group, Lizzy Borden. They kick ass over groups like Def Leppard, Quiet Riot, Motley Crue and Van Halen. I have seen Lizzy Borden about ten times live, and every show is better than the one before.

Peter Vasquez Arleta, CA

Dave Mustaine is the greatest musician alive today. Anyone who thinks different can go to

hell. He has a right to be pissed at Metallica. They gave him a raw deal. Megadeth kicks.

Major Deth Man Greensburg, PA

Why are all you idiots complaining because Hit Parader might feature black metal like Slayer or glam rock like Poison? Who gives a shit? Metal is metal. When Hit Parader publishes crap like Madonna or a-ha, then complain. Long live metal!

Barry Williams Brisbane, Australia

Ross Marino



Ratt: No Johnny-come-latelys.



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## DAVID LEE ROTH

## Flying High Again

#### Diamond Dave Hits The Heights With Skyscraper.

by Andy Secher

David Lee Roth is on a roll, and no one knows it better than Diamond Dave himself. With the success of his latest LP, Skyscraper, and the beginning of a six-month American tour, this former Van Halen frontman has firmly cast aside the demons of his past and asserted himself as a vital force on his own. The road to solo success hasn't been easy, especially with the recent difficulties that caused Roth to sack bassist Billy Sheehan. But with the hiring of new bassist Matt Bissonette — brother of band drummer Grega and the emergence of quitarist Steve Vai as a major force in the rock world, the good ship Roth seems to be sailing straight to the top once again. Recently we sat down with the effervescent Dave to discuss Skyscraper, the Sheehan situation, and life as we know it.

**Hit Parader: Skyscraper** is a strange album title for a guy who grew up in Southern California. What gives? **David Lee Roth:** Hey, the title's got nothing to do with tall buildings or New York City. The skyscraper we're talking about here is flying. Just listen to the song — it's all about soaring high. Stevie's guitar work on that one is just incredible.

**HP:** You produced this album yourself. What made you decide to take on that added responsibility?

**DLR:** It was the time to do it. I know what I want out of a song better than anybody else. We worked on getting this album together for eight months. That's a long time — a lot longer than I've worked on albums in the past, I can assure you that. I wanted everything to be just right, and the way to do that was take on the production responsibilities. I'm glad I did because it was a great experience.

**HP:** There's a great deal of variety on the album. You have songs that run the gamut from hard rock to quasi-funk. There's even a ballad there.

**DLR:** You've got to understand that each song was written with a purpose. We have sprinters that'll just take your breath away. We have quarter-milers that build kind of slowly then finish with a big kick, and we have the long-distance tracks that we hope people will still be playing 15 years from now. One of the things I really wanted on this album was diversity — and we've got it.

**HP:** The keyboards seem a lot more prominent here than on **Eat 'Em And Smile.** Why?

**DLR:** Well, that's pretty easy. Brett Tuggle, who was our keyboard player on tour last time, is now a full member of the band. He wrote quite a bit of the music on the album, and his

keyboard playing was strong throughout the record. He even handled some of the bass parts through keyboard programs.

**HP:** You mention the album's bass parts. Obviously Billy Sheehan is on the album, but he's no longer in the band. What happened?

**DLR:** Some things came up, musical things. Letting Billy go certainly wasn't a quick decision I made, but the kind of music we're playing needs a real solid rhythm section — and sometimes Billy's talent wasn't geared towards rhythm. He's a real flashy heavy metal guy, and this record didn't give him the chance to always play the way he wanted to. I think we're still friends, and that's cool. I only wish him the best. His playing on **Skyscraper** is unbelievable in places. But right now Matt Bissonette is in the band and Billy's off doing his own thing.

**HP:** We've talked about everything about the band except your vocals. The fact is you haven't sounded so good in years. **DLR:** Thank you. The truth is that I really put a lot of time and effort into making sure my vocals were as good as they could be. I still don't take care of my voice the way I should, but I took more time in the studio making sure I got the sound I wanted. It's real important to me to make the vocals, as well as the instruments, sound real interesting. I want people to hear something new and different every time they listen to the record. The songs have to do for the ears what our videos do for the eyes. That's why there are so many different things going on during each song.

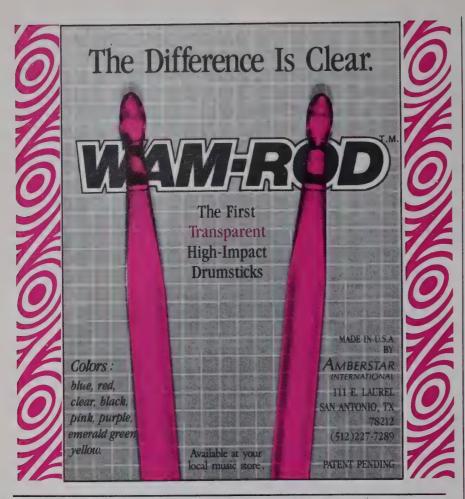
**HP:** There are also no cover tunes this time. Hadn't they become something of a Daimond Dave trademark? **DLR:** I don't know if that's true. I've had fun with cover tunes over the years, but this time, with the band coming up with great ideas and us taking eight months to record, we didn't see the need to do any covers. It really wasn't that much of a big decision. We just turned around one day and realized we had so much original material we'd have trouble squeezing all of it onto one record.

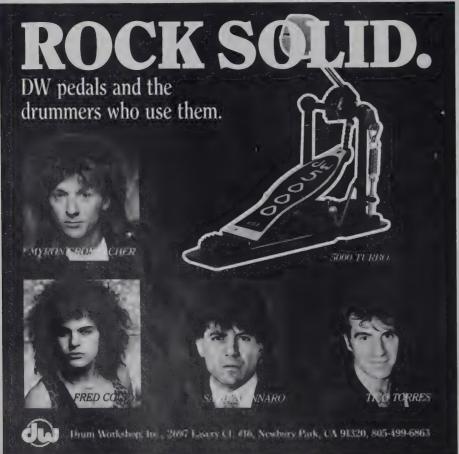
**HP:** Even though you took a long time in the studio, the album has a very live, spontaneous feel to it. How do you think the songs will work onstage?

**DLR:** We already know they'll be great! We've been rehearsing them for the last few months and, in total honesty, they sound better live than they do on the album. We can't wait to get them on the road. We should be heading out very shortly, and I'd like to play as much of this album live as we can.

**HP:** You've gone out of your way during this conversation to praise everyone in the band. Do you view your project as a group of equals or is it still "the David Lee Roth band"? **DLR:** We're still using my name, but I think the people in the group deserve every bit of attention they get. Steve Vai is just gonna blow people away on this album. He's a star in every sense of the word. I like being part of a band. That's why I was real happy to have everyone involved with the music contribute to the record. We're a real harmonious unit right now, and that's the way I want to keep it. □







#### Theavy metal S TRPPENINGS

#### by Andy Secher

Ozzy Osbourne has decided to forego his film career, at least for the time being, and is currently in a Los Angeles recording studio with new guitarist Zakk Wylde laying down tracks for an LP he expects to have out by June. "I couldn't afford to do a movie right now," the Oz said. "It's been two years since I've released a new studio album, and I couldn't see waiting another year to do one. The fans have a very short memory, and maybe they'd forget me if I didn't record now."

ick Gould/ICP



Ozzy Osbourne: Hard at work on his next LP.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

Kiss admit they were a bit shaken when the first dates on their Crazy Nights tour didn't exactly set the world on fire in terms of ticket sales. In fact, in a few Midwestern venues, the band performed in half-empty arenas. But as soon as the show hit the bigger

typicany successful road jaunts, "We're never worried about the fans," Paul Stanley said. "Our fans are the most loyal in the world. We know as long as we're there for them, they'll be there for us."

\*\*\*\*\*

Yngwie Malmsteen says that his next album is on schedule thanks to a new cooperative attitude that has developed between him and new vocalist Joe Lynn Turner. "Nothing can come be-tween me and my music," Yngwie said. "I am the man in control, and that will never change. I write and arrange the material and produce the albums. Nothing will ever stand in my way."

\*\*\*\*\*

Aerosmith's Steven Tyler will tell anyone who asks that you've got to do more than just say "no" to drugs. The battle can be a full-time effort for those who have tasted the horrors of drug abuse. "Hey, drugs can ruin your life," Tyler admitted. "They can become your best triend it you're not careful, and once that happens you're in big trouble. You've got to fight against the temptation at all times. It's a real tough fight, but it's one you've got to win.

nuge, center or the arena stage they were forced to use as the opening act on Def Leppard's national tour. "We were kind of lucky," he said. "Since we have the same management as Def Leppard, we were given the

me road. But it still took us quite a while to get so we felt comfortable up there. Once we did, we had a great time.'

\*\*\*\*\*

Letter Off The Monf

Dear Mr. Secher,

I've been a fan of heavy metal for five years. During that time, I've been to about 30 concerts. I've seen all the big stars — Motley Crue, Metallica, Ozzy Osbourne, Stryper and Bon Jovi, to name just a few. But what I see happening at the arenas is very disturbing. In fact, it bothers me so much that I may never go to another concert again! What's the story with the assholes who bring firecrackers and other crap with them just so they can throw them at people — including the performers onstage — during the show? A friend of mine almost lost an eye when a large firecracker went off near him at a recent show. It's time for something to be done about this!

Robert Walker Flint, MI

Dear Robert,

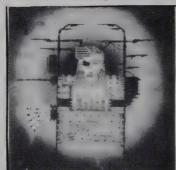
I couldn't agree more. It always seems that there are a few misguided souls who feel it's their obligation to cause havoc in a crowd situation. Maybe they think the only way they can get their heroes to notice them is by hitting that performer in the face with an object. How sad. Anyone caught throwing an object at a concert — be it a firecracker or a roll of paper should be instantly thrown out of the arena.

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## STRYPER

## Love 'Em Or Hate 'Em

## Can Rock And Religion Mix? We Explore The Issue.

#### by Rob Andrews

To some rock fans, Stryper can do no wrong, to others, this Los Angeles-based quartet can do no right. Still, it's hard to fault a band whose first major rabet release, To Hell With The Devil, is fast approaching platinum certification on the wrings of such hits as *Honestly* and *Free*, and whose latest LP, In God We Trust, promises to yield similar dividends. But there's a far more significant issue involved with Stryper's rapid ascension up the rock ladder. You see, all four members of the band are Born Again Christians, and vocalist Michael Sweet, his drumning prother Robert, guitarist Oz Fox and bassist Tim paines take every opportunity to inject their religious beliefs into their music.

Is there room in the world of hard rock for a devoutly religious group who makes no bones

about their desire to turn every concert they perform into their own ministry? Obviously, if one judges strictly by the sales figures Stryper nas racked up over the last few years, the answer is a resounding yes. But perhaps the question shouldn't be whether Stryper has a right to exist — for surely they do. The real issue may be whether their Christian ideals are truly getting through to their fans, and more importantly, whether their message is a positive one for pedal-to-the-metal teens to hear. Some of the band's opponents — including the Reverend Jimmy Swaggart — think not.

"Stryper are blasphemous," the television evangelist recently stated. They cloak themselves in the guise of Christians, then present the same kind of vile, sickening acid rock as secular bands like Kiss and Motley Crue. Playing that kind of music is about as anti-Christian as I can imagine. Rock and roll is truly

a tool of the devil. Perhaps Stryper's fans are too young or too impressionable to realize that. But those boys should be ashamed of themselves.

Needless to say, the Stryper squad feel quite differently. Though the Sweet brothers cite Reverend Swaggart as one of their early sources of inspiration, they make no effort to hold back their feelings about the man who has called them. In blight upon Christianity.

"It hurts us to hear what Reverend Swaggart has to say about us because we've always respected him," Robert Sweet stated. "What we can't understand is why he's so intent on denouncing us. Doesn't he realize that we're both trying to communicate the same message to people? We just think that more kids will isten to people like us than to someone like him. We're all doing God's work, we're just acting in different ways. If he can't see that, then I find that very sad both for him and for us."

Part of the problem that Christian Fundamentalists seem to have with Stryper is their image. Though the band draws its name from a Biblical verse in Isaiah and tosses Bibles into the audience at every one of their concerts, the group's detractors focus instead on their tight-fitting stage costumes and long hair and

Stryper (left to right): Robert Sweet, Michael Sweet, Tim Gaines, Oz Fox.

Ross Marino



condemn them for using Christianity merely as a gimmick to sell records. Are Stryper a wolf in sheep's clothing? Have they turned their unique attitudes into a brilliant marketing tool designed to sell records in the name of the Lord? As usual, opinions on these questions are sharply mixed.

'We've never tried to hide the fact that we're a rock and roll band," Michael Sweet said. "In fact, we're very proud of that. We all grew up listening to Van Halen and Kiss, and we loved the energy and excitement of the music they played. We just wished the message they communicated to their fans could have been more upbeat. Why did they have to sing about sex and drinking all the time? We saw the chance to take the great energy of rock and present a more positive message.

'It makes me want to cry with despair when I see young children believing that this so-called Christian Rock is actually communicating the word of God," a Swaggart spokesperson explained. "Those people don't understand the first thing about Christianity. How can playing music at ear-splitting levels be beneficial to anyone? Rock and roll is truly the sound of the devil come to life. We have to make sure people realize that before it's too late."

Though the debate between religious fundamentalists and the rock community will go on for years, the question remains: what impact does Stryper's music have on the fans who listen to it? What percentage of the people who buy the band's albums or go to their shows actually realize they are being presented with Christian ideals and beliefs? Are Stryper's fans into the band because of their music or because of their message?

"I don't think it's possible to come to one of our shows and not realize what we're saving," Robert Sweet stated. "We don't try to hide our message at all. We talk about the Lord between songs, we sing about him, and we toss Bibles out into the crowd. I don't think our message can be missed. I'm glad there are people who get into the music we make, but I must believe those people also are getting into our message."

'I don't really care what they're singing about," one teenaged girl said during a recent Stryper show. "I think they're some of the cutest guys in the world, and their music is just dreamy. I know they're a Christian band, but they don't hit you over the head with that all the time. I'm here because of the music - I'll leave religion to someone else."

While this young woman's remarks seemed to reflect the attitude of many in attendance at a Stryper concert, there unquestionably is a strong religious element who look to the band as a safe, palatable means of being fed a Christian message. "These guys helped save my life," one young man explained. "I was on drugs and homeless, and religion was a sham to me especially all those TV preachers. But Stryper's music and lyrics gave me hope to continue on. I'll always love them for that.

No matter what one's view of Stryper, it's clear that this is a group whose impact is just beginning to be felt. As the band's power grows with successive albums, it will be interesting to see if people's reactions to them remain so drastically polarized. Or perhaps Stryper will achieve one of the basic messages of their songs and not only bring the world together in peace, but their fans and detractors as well.



Michael Sweet: "We're very proud of being a rock and roll band."

# DUFFISRYCHE

## Mind Over Matter

Seattle Metal Mavens End Lengthy Absence With Operation Mind Crime.



Geoff Tate (left) and Chris DeGarmo: "We're not an MTV band, and we don't want to be."

#### by Andy Secher

The question rock fans have been asking over and over again in recent months is where the hell is Queensryche? Just two years ago, this hardrocking quintet from Bellevue, Washington, was widely hailed as an upcoming superstar attraction. Though albums such as The Warning and Rage For Order showed unquestioned flashes of brilliance, vocalist Geoff Tate, guitarists Chris DeGarmo and Michael Wilton, bassist Eddie Jackson and drummer Scott Rockenfield failed to ignite that special spark of interest within rocks fans' hearts. Then, for nearly two years, Queensryche seemed to vanish. Rumors about business problems filled the press, but no word came from the band members themselves. But now, Geoff Tate proudly lifts the veil of secrecy that has surrounded the band, and reveals what went on with Queensryche over the last few years, and what new tricks they have in store for the future.

Hit Parader: Geoff, where has Queensryche been?

Geoff Tate: Actually, it hasn't been that long since we've been on the road. We finished touring in February '87, and during the last year, we cleared up a number of lingering business problems. We all got together last spring and started to think about where Queensryche is, and where we want to go from there. It was a very eye-opening time for us. We realized there were a number of basic principles about this band that we had gotten away from.

**HP**: What were those principles?

GT: One of them was a business principle. We always wanted to be in control of our band and the way it operated. But we were involved with people who tried to tell us what to do and what

not to do. We realized we were old enough to make some of our own decisions, so we broke away from our old managers and signed with Q-Prime, which is the organization that handles Def Leppard, Metallica, Dokken and Tesla. The other principle was an artistic one. We saw that on the last album, Rage For Order, we had gotten away from the raw, heavy sound that was at this band's roots. We realized that we wanted to get back to those roots.

HP: In retrospect, what aspects of Rage For Order don't you like?

GT: In some ways, it was a little too commercialsounding for my taste. To me, it seems that music has gotten very tame these days, and the last album was too tame an album for Queensryche. We made our reputation by playing a certain type of metal, and then we seemed to get away from it. We want to get back to where we were on our first EP. We're not an MTV-type band, and more importantly, we don't want to be.

HP: So what can you tell us about your next album?

GT: It should be out in about a month, and it's called Operation Mind Crime. We're very excited about it because it's a full-length concept LP, with each song telling a different chapter of the story. We think we have a very timely and interesting concept on the album: It's about a guy who's a loner, really without direction in his life. He hooks up with this subversive group that's involved with terrorist activities against the United States. There's also a sub-plot where this guy falls in love with a nun called Sister Mary. In fact, one of the major cuts on the album is a ten-minute-long track called Suite: Sister Mary.

HP: It sounds like a very ambitious project. GT: It is. But we never lost sight of what we want to do musically, which is play heavy metal. We think it's possible to present music of that sort without sacrificing a powerful lyrical presentation. We've always believed that there was more to heavy metal than three chords and simple

HP: How did a project like Operation Mind Crime come about?

GT: Actually, I came up with original concept for the album in December of 1986. When we got off the road, I got together with Chris and Michael to flesh out the idea. Then Scott and Eddie became involved to put the finishing touches on the concept. I must say that we're all very excited about the idea and really happy with how the album turned out.

HP: Queensryche has developed the reputation for producing albums in a variety of locales. Did that pattern continue on this LP?

GT: Yes. We did the basic backing tracks in Philadelphia last November. Then we moved up to Montreal for most of the recording, then went on to Amsterdam for the mixing. We think there's a big advantage to working that way. We get a number of different perspectives on the material, and we get to work with some of the best people in the field. I can't see us ever wanting to change that way for working.

HP: The band got quite a bit of heat last time for



Michael Wilton: His guitar skills come to the fore on the band's new LP. Annamaria Di Santo

your "Bride of Frankenstein" look with those streaks in your hair. Will there be a new image for Queensryche this time around?

GT: Something we realized was that we were changing our image with every album we did. We tried to make the look fit the album's overall concept, but then we began to understand that fans like a particular image that they can latch onto and relate to. Look at a band like AC/DC: they've had the same image for a long time, and they've been incredibly successful with it. We're going to take a page from their book in that we're going to utilize an image that we're totally comfortable with. Queensryche's image from now on will be to represent us just the way we are. We'll look and dress for the stage pretty much the same way we'd look walking down the street.

HP: So, obviously, you're optimistic that Queensryche can make up for the time you've lost and regain your momentum?

GT: Well, we hope so. I've got to admit that it's been a bit strange looking through the magazines and not seeing our names and pictures there. We had grown used to that and we liked it. When you don't see your name in the press, it plants some doubts as to whether people really remember you. But we feel that with this album we have what it takes for Queensryche to rise higher than it's ever been hefore.



**Dave Murray** 

Bick Mikels



#### Metal Masters Complete Work On New Album.

#### by Winston Cummings

Ten rowdy fans stood outside the arena with but one thought buzzing through their collective craniums — to get into the sold-out Iron Maiden show at any cost. Of course, these dudes didn't have the \$50 that scalpers were asking for a mezzanine seat, so they had to devise a less expensive, though no less effective, means of getting inside the stadium. As the time neared the show's 8PM start, it was clearly the moment for desperate measures - and for desperate men, those measures are often motivated more by perspiration than inspiration. Before long. the gang of ten had found a log lying in a nearby parking lot, and the idea of using it as a battering ram against the alreadylocked arena door seemed the perfect solution to their plight.

Though they were somewhat drunk from the six-packs of beer they had been imbibing since three that afternoon, the ten somehow managed to align their skills so that the man-powered hunk of lumber did its job perfectly — smashing a glass entrance door into a million tiny fragments. Within seconds, the bunch dashed through the opening they had created, darted past the startled security officers and arena officials, and disappeared into the capacity throng before anyone had a chance to react. Just as the ten's whoops of victory began to blend into the din, the house lights went dark and the first thunderous notes of Somewhere In Time began to blast from the band's wall of speakers. A typical night on the road was underway for Iron Maiden.

'We heard about what happened after we got offstage," a bemused Dave Murray stated in the band's post-concert dressing room. "It's hard to believe some fans would want to see our show so badly that they'd actually break the arena door down. Thank heaven no one got hurt. In a way, I guess it's a compliment to us, but I do wish those fans would take a more conventional means of getting into the show. Sometimes the dedication of our fans almost scares me.

The devotion that Maiden fans have shown for their favorite band has now been evident for over a decade, ever since the group first popped up on the London

"Sometimes the dedication of our fans almost scares

club circuit — ironically at the height of the "punk" revolution in 1976. Over the next dozen years, few bands in the rock sphere would do more to elevate and inspire the metal world than these quintessential British bashers. Murray, fellow quitarist Adrian Smith, bassist Steve Harris, drummer Nicko McBrain and vocalist Bruce Dickinson have created an album and stage legacy for extravagance and imagination unmatched in the metal

No topic seems too outrageous for the Maiden men to tackle. During their career, they have explored the mysteries of ancient Egypt on Powerslave, created odes to the American Indian with Run To The Hills and spun classic tales of glory with Rhyme Of The Ancient Mariner. But as well as paying homage to the past through their music, they've also explored the future — most notably on their last studio creation, Somewhere In Time. Having delved into the past, journeyed into the future, and raised more than a few shackles by dealing with the devil himself on Number Of The Beast, are there any frontiers left for Iron Maiden to explore?

"I think you're just beginning to see this band touch on its abilities," Harris said. "What's happened over the last few years is that we've developed a much more diverse songwriting attack. In the early days, I wrote almost all of the band's material. But now, Adrian has become an excellent songwriter, and Bruce and Dave can always be counted on to contribute some strong ideas whenever we go into the studio. That diversity has made us a much stronger band, and I feel certain you'll continue to see even more development from us in the years ahead.'

"I think we're as surprised by what our albums sound like as anyone," Dickinson added. "We enjoy experimenting with new lyrical and musical ideas and seeing what we can come up with. I think each of Maiden's albums has been stronger than the preceding one for that very reason. On Somewhere In Time, we tried things that were quite different from anything we'd done on Powerslave. And on the next album, I'm sure we'll do things that are a step beyond what we created on Somewhere In Time.

While work on Maiden's next LP is not yet completed (the album should be in record stores by mid-May), word from the group's Amsterdam recording studio is that this album is the band's most ambitious to date. Nearly six months of writing, arranging, recording and mixing have already gone into the record's creative process, and Dave Murray, for one, feels this LP may well emerge as Iron Maiden's magnum opus.

'We have somewhat strange reactions to our albums," he said. "Sometimes we can be very excited; at other times, we can be almost pensive. A lot of our attitude has to do with our mood, how hard we're working, and where we're recording. We've recorded albums everywhere from the Bahamas to Europe, and our environment absolutely affects the music - it especially affects Bruce. I know that he was much happier working in Amsterdam than he was at Compass Point. When we were in the Bahamas, he had nothing to do when he got out of the studio.

'This album finds us all very happy for a change," he added with a laugh. "This record represents our continued growth as a band. That's very exciting for all of us. We've all matured over the years, and because of that, we're able to approach new material in continually new ways. But Iron Maiden is the kind of band that's never really satisfied. We're always looking for a way of making a song a little better or the stage show a little more dramatic. I imagine many bands would be quite content to accomplish what we have. But for us the challenge never stops. That's what being in Iron Maiden is all about."



## By Popular Demand We Present An Exclusive Interview With Rock's Top "Second Banana."

#### by Adrianne Stone

When most people think of the band Bon Jovi, their thoughts naturally turn to shaggy-haired vocalist and leader, Jon Bon Jovi. But his guitarist and writing buddy, Richie Sambora, is an integral part of the tunemaster team and, as such, deserves more attention than he usually gets. When an interview is scheduled with the tall, slim ex-psychology major, he is only too eager to relate some of his history and the trials and tribulations this super-successful hard rock group has faced.

Few people realize bassist Alec John Such's role in Sambora's recruitment into Bon Jovi. "About 5 years ago I was in Chicago doing some session work in commercials and Alec called me," Sambora relates. "He said, 'You gotta come down and see this band I'm playing with, Jon Bongiovi and the Wild Ones.' I said okay, 'cause Alec and I had played together and had been friends for a while. So I saw them and I thought they were great, except that the guitar player was really good at playing, but he wasn't a good band player."

Richie stops himself, making it clear that his intention is not to knock another musician. "Like, he played good by himself, but [imitating virtuoso scale playing] he did a lot of this shit. So I said to Jon, 'Hey man, my name is Richie Sambora. I write songs, I play guitar a little bit and I get around,' and Jon kinda just laughed and said, 'Oh, yeah? Listen to this guy talk!'"

Not exactly an auspicious beginning, but fortunately Alec stepped in. "I thought, 'well, at least I tried," says Sambora, "but then Alec said to Jon, 'Hey, wait a minute. You should listen to this guy. He's really good! So Jon agreed and I went down to rehearsal and he hired me in five minutes."

Over the next four years, the band released two albums (Bon Jovi and 7800° Fahrenheit) which sold moderately well, but didn't exactly set the music world on fire. Then when Slippery When Wet was released in 1986, its impact was earth-shattering. "The reason that I think we have success now," muses Sambora, "is because of the shortcomings of the first two albums. They weren't that good, but they gave us a chance to rebound. If we

came out with **Slippery** first, then what would we have done for an encore?"

With over eight million copies of Slippery When Wet sold to date, and world tours galore, the band's biggest difficulty is now their lack of free time. "I've gotten used to it," concedes Sambora, as he relates a typical road itinerary, "but the schedule's quite pressing. You're in London and you fly to Germany to play a gig that night. Then you go through Holland and you wash your hair in a sink and play a gig, and then you go somewhere else. And the time zones are changing and the money is changing, and you have Kroners and then Pounds and then Deutchmarks... it gets real crazy."

How crazy? "Well," he says, grinning,

How crazy? "Well," he says, grinning, "every time you go over borders in Europe, they wake you up and look into your asshole to find something, you know?" He laughs, his dark eyes lighting up with glee. "No, they haven't probed my asshole yet! They just come and look in the tour bus and make us all wake up."

But these "search and annoy" missions are not the major source of aggravation for the Jersey rockers. "The worst part of touring," Sambora says, "is you kinda leave everything behind — your friends, your family, your place, your car and all that stuff. For ten months it's just, 'I'm outta here! See ya!' It's a large sacrifice that people don't see. Yeah, we get paid some good money, but it's not the easiest job on earth. It's 24 hours a day."

The financial rewards that go hand-in-hand with Sambora's success are indeed impressive. "I own about thirty guitars now," he gushes happily. "I only use about five of them onstage, but I play all my guitars. I use them all for different purposes 'cause they're all different types; acoustics, 12-strings, electric 12-strings, acoustic 12-strings, doublenecks, Strats, Les Pauls, Explorers, Flying Vs, you know... I have a ton."

If he only had the time to enjoy them all, he'd be in seventh heaven. "On a day that I have to do a show, if I don't have to do any interviews, it's a real blessing, because I try to save up all my energy for those two hours onstage. On a performance day, I try to stay interview-free, but that never happens. Of

course, I love talking, even though it fucks up my schedule sometimes."

Still there's nothing Sambora would rather be doing than touring the known universe. "I play music," he says emphatically. "I don't wanna act, I don't wanna be a journalist, I'm here to play music. The guitar is my life — it's like, 'The Truth.' When I was a kid and maybe my girlfriend and I had had a fight and I would be bummed out 'cause she was an asshole or I was an asshole or something like that, there was one thing that I could always look to as an honest thing. I knew that if I put two hours into the guitar, I'd be two hours better. That's it. Case closed."

Richie's passion for music is what has made songs like I'd Die For You so much more meaningful for him than the average love song. "Actually, it's a story about friends," Sambora explains. "Instead of saying, 'I love you,' you say it a different way: 'Look, I might not send you roses and I might not walk up and put my arm around you all the time, but when it comes down to the wire, I'd die for you'."

That sentiment really describes Sambora's friendship with the rest of the band as well. Asked to name one member of Bon Jovi that he's closest friends with, Richie is dumbfounded. "Oh, jeez," he replies. "That's so hard. Everybody's such real good friends, I don't know that there's anybody that's any closer than the next guy. I mean when we're on the road, we live together — we're like five brothers. It's like I got married to four other guys, you know?"

It really is rare to find the kind of cameraderie Richie shares with his bandmates. That's probably one of the reasons why his tenure with the group has seemed more like months instead of five long, hard years. "I don't think I would do anything differently," he maintains. "I mean, I've learned so much and it feels more like a short five years, even though it's been a long five years when I think about all the different emotional stuff that went on behind the scenes. In the past five years, I've gone through about thirty years of emotional stuff. That's what keeps me young. I know that sounds weird, but it's not, really. You learn so much about yourself when you're in a band that you know how to maintain an even pace and keep yourself young."

Sounds like the words of a happy man.
"Yeah, I'm thrilled," Sambora beams. "I'm the happiest I've ever been. Put it this way, if the Richie Sambora of five years ago could meet me now, he'd be impressed!"□



## AC/DC Thunder And Lightning

Angus And The Boys Prove They've Still Got What It Takes
On Latest LP.

#### by Andy Secher

AC/DC are at it again; they're playing that unique brand of blues/metal as only they can. In this era of mousse-abuse hair styles and Max Factor makeup jobs, this band of Australian ruffians stand for everything rock and roll is supposed to be. Augus Young, Brian Johnson, Malcolm Young, Cliff Williams and Simon Wright are loud and lewd; true hedonists in the finest sense of the word. On their latest LP, Blow Up Your Video, the Thunder From Down Under has returned to the rough 'n' ready sound that made such albums as Highway To Hell and Back In Black true metal classics. Recently we discussed AC/DC's latest accomplishments and their plans for the future with Johnson and the alwayshyperactive Angus.

on the floor. I felt like I had been thrown in a dungeon.

AV: Yeah poor Brian and Cliff were put up there

AY: Yeah, poor Brian and Cliff were put up there for some reason while the rest of us had it a little easier. But they didn't stay there very long.

BJ: Yeah, the second night we slept there, the proprietor came up to us and said, "Did the White Lady bother you last night?" I didn't know what he meant until he explained that the White Lady was the ghost of the house. It didn't take us long to get out of there after that.

**HP:** But despite all those distractions, you seem to have created a great album.

Hit Parader: On the new album you've returned to using the production team of Harry Vanda and George Young — the guys who worked on all of AC/DC's early albums. Why?

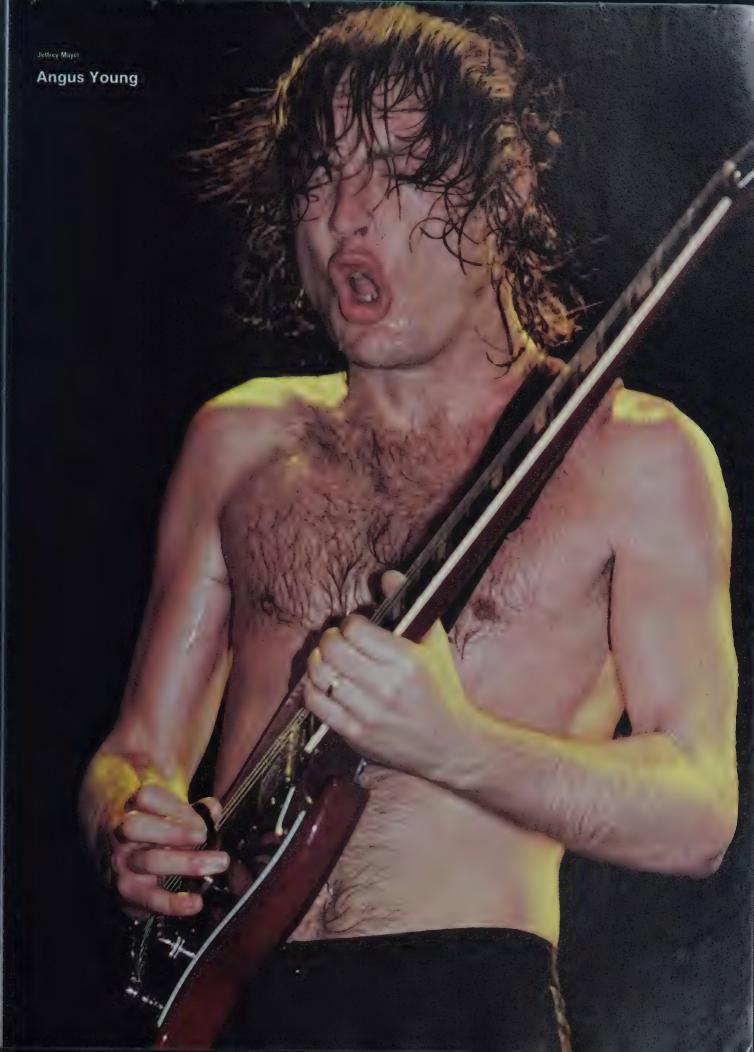
Brian Johnson: It's not like we just returned to them because they helped us with Who Made Who last year. They did such a great job on that album we felt that we had to work with them again. They have such a good attitude towards recording that they really made this project fun. Angus Young: Anyway, George is my brother, and it's nice to get the family together every once in a while. We always had a great time on the early albums we did, and the only reason we ever broke away was because we wanted to see what other producers could do with us. We had great success working with someone like Mutt Lange, but it is nice to be back working with Harry and George.

**HP:** Brian, before you said that you had a lot of fun working on this album. What exactly made it so enjoyable?

BJ: The whole atmosphere that surrounded the album was really good. The priority this time was on having fun. The music almost was a secondary thing. But I think we had to have that attitude to overcome the conditions we were recording under. We recorded this album in Miraul Studios in France, and it's a place right out of the 12th Century. We were working most of last summer, and there was no air conditioning in the place. Hell, there wasn't even a fan that worked. On top of that Cliff and I had to stay in this little shack that actually was part of a church. It was an old stone building, and there were bats and spiders all over the place very spooky. All we had in our rooms was a bare light bulb sticking out of the wall and a mattress



Brian and Angus: "This album returns to the bluesy sound of our first albums."



AY: We like to think so. To me it's just an AC/DC album, which really says it all. The songs are good this time, and the sound is very strong. One of the best things is that we were able to record 16 tracks, which is a lot for us. Now we'll be able to put some special songs on the "B" sides of singles if we want. It's just a nice feeling to know that you've recorded that many good songs.

BJ: In my very humble opinion there are at least five potential singles on this album. Heat Seeker is the first one, which is your typical AC/DC tale of love and lust. But songs like Mean Streak and This Means War are some of my favorite tracks we've ever recorded. I gave the album its big test a few weeks ago when I let my 12-year-old nephew play it. He's a big AC/DC fan, and when he came out from playing the new record with a big smile on his face I knew we had a winner.

HP: It seems that AC/DC has updated its sound a little bit on this album.

BJ: That may be true, but I actually think it's a return to the bluesy roots the band originally had. All the songs have a good, dirty, driving beat, and Angus has come up with some incredible guitar work for this album. But I can understand it when people think the sound is more "modern." Bluesy rock has made a comeback over the last few years thanks to bands like Whitesnake. The world has finally gotten away from that pretty-boy hard rock that bands like Motley Crue and Bon Jovi have been playing. Now I'm certainly not putting them down in any way because I respect everyone in this business. But I think it's time to get back to lowdown, dirty music rather than music played by guys who just act dirty.

AY: I don't think we actually considered changing anything about AC/DC this time. But every time you go into the studio you take what you've always had and see what new elements you can add to it. To me this sounds very much like all our albums — only it may be a bit better.

HP: What is it about AC/DC that makes the band so popular a dozen years after you released your first album?

AY: I think it's our integrity. The fans know what they're going to get with us. They know that if they pay their money for an album or a ticket to one of our shows they're not going to be disappointed. To me that's the most important thing. We stay on a proven course and we really have no interest to change that much.

BJ: I don't think we've ever sold out of beliefs. You'll never see AC/DC as part of one of those "Golden Hits" TV packages — though the lads have been offered a lot of money to do that.

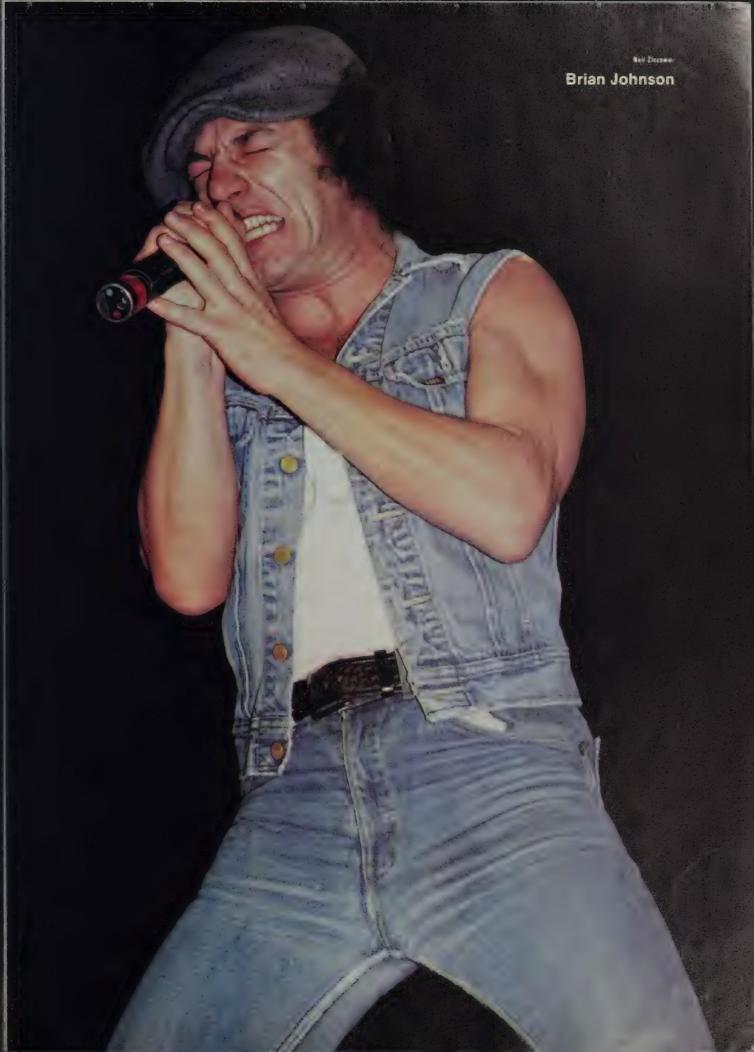
Another example of that occurred a few years ago when the Rolling Stones offered us a million dollars to open a show for them in one of the huge, outdoor arenas. Angus didn't want any part of it. He said, "Hey, we're not an opening act, and we're better than the Stones anyway.' I know my jaw dropped when he said that, but I understood what he meant. There's no reason for AC/DC to ever open a show for anyone.

HP: Speaking of playing live, do you have any new tricks lined up for this year's stage show? BJ: I certainly hope not (laughs.) Theatrics are not for us. I really hope that we never reach the point where we have to shoot off fireworks and have projection screens just to sell a few concert tickets. The trouble with all that is every stage show looks the same to me. It's not the bands faults; the same guys design the stage sets for every group. They come up with one good idea and then sell it to every band. Our goal is to stay as far away from that as possible.

AY: We'll probably still have our cannons, which we use during For Those About To Rock, and we may have a few other things going on, but we never believed we needed too many tricks to get by on stage. We want the focus to be on us and on the music. With AC/DC that's the way it's always going to be.□



AC/DC (I. to r.): Cliff Williams, Simon Wright, Angus Young, Brian Johnson, Malcolm Young.



MIT PARADER AEROSMITH'S Steven Tyler



# DESTRUCTION OF THE PROPERTY OF

Phil Collen (left) and Joe Elliott: "We were friends before we became successful, and we're still friends today."

Rick Gould ICP

#### English Aces Ride Hysteria To The Top.

#### by Andy Secher

Def Leppard are more than a great rock and roll band: they're five close friends whose lives are intricately interconnected, whether onstage or off. That's one of the reasons drummer Rick Allen's tragic car accident two years ago threw the Leps into such an emotional tizzy, a state that left them artistically helpless for more than a year. But today, Allen and bandmates Joe Elliott (vocals), Rick Savage (bass), Steve Clark (guitar) and Phil Collen (guitar) have put their troubles behind them and are in the midst of a commercial resurgence of grand proportions. With their latest LP, Hysteria, having already sold over three million copies, it is apparent that the "all for one and one for all" philosophy of these Five Musketeers has paid off in spades. Recently we spoke with Allen, Elliott and Savage about the band's unique bond of friendship.

Hit Parader: What is it that makes all of you get along so well?

Joe Elliott: We were friends before we became successful, and we're even greater friends today. We've shared a unique experience with Def Leppard, and that draws you closer together. A band is like a marriage; you have to bend sometimes to make sure everyone's happy. But in a marriage you only have to worry about making one other person happy. In this band, you have four other blokes to worry about.

Rick Savage: We all have the same likes and dislikes, and that makes getting along much easier. Joe and I shared an apartment while we were recording Hysteria, and while we occasionally had our moments of disagreement, it really was amazing how well everything went along.

HP: As you look back over the four years between Pyromania and Hysteria, was there a single high point or a single low point that each of you remember?

JE: The down point, unquestionably, was Rick's accident. I think we'd all agree on that. Especially since it happened on New Year's Eve - what a pisser! The high point is a little harder to find, because while I would like to say it was recording the album, that was such a long, drawn-out experience that it really wasn't a high point. On a strictly personal level, the two high points for me were getting onstage with Elton John in England and then having the chance to play soccer on the same side as George Best (one of the world's great players) in front of 18,000 people at a benefit match.

RS: For me, each time we completed a song was a high point. Actually knowing that the song was done and that we were happy with it was a very satisfying experience for all of us. Even though each song took ages to do, when we reached the point when we knew no more overdubs had to be done — that we were finally ready to mix — it was a great feeling.

Rick Allen: It was like a prison sentence was up. When we'd get a song done, it was like a huge weight was taken off our shoulders. For me, of course, just getting back into the band and convincing myself, as well as everyone else, that I could still play was my high point. My low point was discovering I couldn't wear a watch anymore. (laughs)

HP: You recorded about two dozen songs while you were in the studio. How much fighting took place over which numbers should finally make it onto Hysteria?

RS: You won't believe this, but we look at things so similarly, there was really no disagreement at all over which songs were going to be on the album. I think it became apparent to everyone which were the best songs, and it really didn't matter who wrote what. Nobody complained if his song didn't make it - at least nobody started pouting or punching walls in front of the rest of the band. What they did once they went into the privacy of their own rooms...

JE: ... Then all hell broke loose (laughs) The simple fact was that we all agreed that the strongest songs went on the album. We never considered who had written what, or how long they had taken to record. All we were concerned with was which ones sounded best. The others are still around. Some have already popped up as B-sides on singles. Others may emerge somewhere else. Who

HP: Now that you've been on tour a few months, how do you feel the new songs have evolved onstage? JE: To be honest, we always surprise ourselves. We record quite a few of our shows for our own amusement and knowledge. We have tapes from the first three shows we played in Europe before we even came over to America this time — and a number from various stops along the way in the States. We're all surprised how the new songs have taken on a life of their own onstage. They really come across well, which of course makes us very happy. We did wonder how they might fare in comparison to some of the material from Pvromania, but I think our anxiety was a bit unfounded.

RA: Def Leppard has always been its strongest onstage. With the new stage set in the middle of the arena and everyone jumping around all the time - except me, of course - we wondered if there would be any effect on the music. If there has been, it's only made the show better.

HP: Was it hard to go back on the road after such a long layoff?

RS: To us it was the most natural thing in the world. After about three seconds, we felt like we had never taken a day off from the last tour. In a way, it's like what they say about riding a bike; once you learn, you don't forget.

JE: We've always had a certain kind of telepathy onstage. We never plan how we're going to move about, yet we never run into one another. There's a special energy that happens when we're up there under the lights. We feel that there's a bit of magic going on between us, and it's our main job to convey that magic to all the people who are sitting in the audience.

Rick Gould/ICP



Rick Savage: "After about three seconds, we felt like we had never taken a day off from the last tour.'

# At The Roads CtossRoads

**British Bashers Plan Return To** Platinum Paradise With New LP.

Downing, Halford and Tipton: The Priest front line in action.





#### by Winston Cummings

1987 wasn't the best year in Judas Priest's decade-long career. Sure, vocalist Rob Halford, guitarists K.K. Downing and Glenn Tipton, bassist Ian Hill and drummer Dave Holland have survived rougher times than this. But with their eagerly-anticipated live set's failure to generate as much fan interest as had been expected, and the group's decision not to tour the U.S., the Priest guys found themselves at their lowest career point since 1980's British Steel rocketed these metal men to international stardom. But now it seems as if things are about to take a major swing upward for the Priest. With their new album completed and an extensive tour planned to start in May, it looks as though these legendary metal masters are about to reclaim their spot at the top of the rock pile.

'Perhaps people have made a bit too much of the performance of the live album," Halford explained. "It was released as a special present to our fans, those people who have stayed loyal to us throughout the years. The reaction we heard from them was very positive; they loved the album. I think it's wrong to compare that record to Turbo or Screaming For Vengeance. It was recorded and released for an entirely different reason than our studio LPs.

"If anyone thinks Priest have lost anything as a band, we challenge them to restate that comment after hearing the new album," he added. "This may well be Priest's ultimate metal statement. We've had a great deal of time to record this album, and the material shows that. There is no weak link this time; every track is strong. We have some material that is still from the Turbo period; other tracks were written during the last year. But as a whole, the album reflects the heavy side of Priest's music. It places us squarely back in the heavy metal field where we belong. We've experimented a bit over the years with everything from the forerunners of thrash metal to the more sophisticated techniques used on Turbo. This time we've kept all of our musical strengths and stripped the sound down to basics.

Stripping Priest's sound down to its structural core may be just what's needed to bring the band into the contemporary metal spotlight. As Halford admitted, the group's progressive leanings often got the best of them on Turbo, as their heavy-handed use of guitar synthesizers robbed their volcanic sound of much of its fire. This time, however, things are different. Working with longtime band producer Tom Allom in Copenhagen, Priest has created a classic LP of metal fury, a disc that can show any of the young metal lions a few new tricks.

'We certainly don't have anything against bands like Metallica, who have come along in the last few years," Halford explained. "We admire what they're doing, and we believe that Priest's efforts a few years back helped open the doors for the kind of music they play. But we aren't about to take a back seat to anyone. Judas Priest is writing and recording the best music of its career at the moment, and we feel certain the fans will react favorably to it.'

Despite Halford's positive words, the sales pattern for Priest's last few LPs hasn't been encouraging. Their peak was the 1984 success of Screaming For Vengeance, which has sold over 1.5 million copies. Ever since then, it's been a case of diminishing returns - Defenders Of The Faith, Turbo and Live all failed to break the platinum sales barrier. Is this decline due to the younger, flashier metal merchants on the scene? Is it because Priest's metal machine has lost steam? Glenn Tipton thinks neither is true.

"If anyone thinks Priest has lost anything, we challenge them to restate that after hearing the new album."

"Americans tend to look at their country as the world," he said. "True, an album like **Defenders** didn't sell as many copies in America as Screaming For Vengeance. But in parts of Europe it sold even better! That's why I scoff at the notion that we have lost any of our following. I think most bands --- whether they play metal or not - would be very pleased to sell over a million albums internationally every time they release a new record. We're not in competition with any other band — certainly not groups like Bon Jovi - and we're quite satisfied with the acceptance our albums have received in recent years, both on a commercial and on a critical

If Priest have, in fact, lost any of their momentum recently, that may be traced to the fact that they haven't toured in over 18 months. Originally, the group planned to spend a good part of the summer of '87 on American shores, playing festival dates in support of their live album. But supposedly cooler heads within the Priest camp recommended that the group spend their time working on new material instead. Only time will tell how wise that decision was.

"It would have been an incredible amount of fun to come over to the States and tour last summer," Halford said. "We would have done it without the stage set we use indoors, and we only would have played the large, outdoor festivals. It would have been just us, our instruments and the fans - a real return to our roots. But that proved impossible at the time. We thought it would be smarter to work on the new album. There will be plenty of time for touring in the year ahead."

At the moment, Priest plan to return to the road next month, with a six-week European tour which will take them through England, France and Germany. Following that, it's a month off while they put together their American stage set in preparation for the six months of metal mayhem which will then hit our shores.

'We reach a point when we've been off the road for a while when we just can't wait to get back onstage," K.K. Downing said. "We enjoy our lives at home, but we've been part of a touring rock band for the last 20 years of our lives. Going on tour with Judas Priest is what we live for. I think I'd just as soon give up living as give up touring. Each tour we've undertaken has been bigger, better and more elaborate than its predecessor, and this one will be no exception. When fans see this show, their eyes may just pop right out of their heads."

Neil Zlozower, Inc.



Rob Halford: "It's wrong to compare the success of the live album with our studio

THE ON STREET PROPERTY OF STREET, STRE

Vivian Campbell: After being bad-mouthed by former boss Ronnie Dio, this Irish axe master is enjoying the last laugh. Rudy Sarzo: The former Ozzy and Quiet Riol bassist remains one of the most charismatic stage performers around

The joke about Whitesnake is that after a show, they don't pass around a bottle of celebratory champagne, they pass around a bottle of peroxide. Wasn't David Coverdale's hair a mousy brown the last time we saw the Snake? Wasn't Rudy Sarzo raven-haired during his days with Quiet Riot? Was Adrian Vandenberg always quite so blond? Whatever their hair-care situation, Whitesnake are proving the old axiom that blonds have more fun. As they launch their sixth month on tour (including a three-month stint opening for Motley Crue, a month of European headlining gigs, and now their own American star slot) Coverdale and crew seem to be on top of the world. Their latest LP has sold over six million copies, and their shows are selling out wherever they appear.

"The stage is where Whitesnake has always been at its strongest," Coverdale explained. "Perhaps it's my British heritage, but I've always believed that a truly great band has to be able to put across their music in a live environment. We've been doing that for years in Europe and the Orient, and I'm so glad we're finally getting that chance in the States. This is a dream come true for us — something we'll certainly never forget. Each night when I'm onstage, the fans' incredible response just makes us so appreciative of what Whitesnake has accomplished in the last year."

Sam





#### by Mike Powers

What do you do when you spend just \$23,000 making your first album - which goes double-platinum, by the way - and then people offer you ten times that amount to record your next LP? If you're Poison, the answer is easy. No, they didn't spend the extra bucks on hair spray, smart ass. But if you know vocalist Bret Michaels, guitarist C.C. DeVille, bassist Bobby Dall and drummer Rikki Rockett, you know damn well the money didn't go to waste.

"We've found some pretty good ways of spending it," Michaels said with a toothy smile. "When we started working on the album, we figured we'd put a little of the money aside for recording, then just go out and buy all the alcohol we could lay our hands on. (laughs) Actually, the idea of throwing an incredible party did cross our minds, but the fact is that making a good album takes a lot of money. There were a lot of things we would have changed about Look What The Cat Dragged In if we had been offered a few more dollars, so this time we knew we were going to do things right even if it did take every dollar of the recording budget.'

One thing we found out by recording on such a low budget last time is that the songs are the most important thing," Dall added. "You can get away with a pretty shitty sounding album if you have great songs. I don't want to name any names, but the Rolling Stones sure got away with some awful-sounding records in their career just because they had the most incredible songs on earth. Our goal this time is to keep the great songs, and make them sound great on the album too. We don't want things too polished we like that rough edge - but this record will sound a lot better

than the first one.'

Regardless of whether Look What The Cat Dragged In ever wins any awards for its production qualities, the album did catapult these transplanted Harrisburg, Pennsylvania residents, to the very

apex of rock society. Such hits as I Won't Forget You, Talk Dirty To Me and I Want Action, burned both the band's sound and their look (through extensive MTV exposure) into the psyches of rockers around the world. Though their fondness for outrageous makeup, flashy stage costumes and hair teased-to-themoon raised more than a few eyebows, Poison's fun-loving attitude and solid musical base made them metal's hottest new attraction in years. Michaels, for one, thinks he knows exactly what it is about his band that turns the fans

"It's our personalities," he said. "It comes across when we do interviews, when we do videos and when we make music. And it really comes across when we're onstage. We have a chemistry up there that I don't think any other band can match. It's almost like we have telepathy. We know what each other is gonna do, and we know exactly how to respond to it. It's almost scary at times. The fans sense that we're really together onstage. That's something you just can't fake, no matter how good you are. If you're up there going through the motions, the fans know — you can't fool them.

But can Poison maintain their chemistry with the added ingredients of fame and fortune now part of their special mix? They seem like four down-to-earth guys who will never let success go to their heads, but one must wonder if big bucks and bright lights will change Poison in the months ahead.

"That'll never happen," Rockett promises. "We have each other to keep our heads screwed on straight. It's hard to get too carried away when you're still living on a tour bus and eating at any greasy spoon you can find open at two in the morning. We haven't really had the chance to enjoy whatever money we've made. We were on tour from the spring of 1986 right through the middle of 1987, then we went right into the studio. About the only benefit we've seen from our success is that we

have single rooms on the road now. That was our present to ourselves for going platinum with the last album. Now if you want to take a chick up to your room, you don't have to worry about somebody else bothering you.'

"I'll tell you what's changed," Michaels added enthusiastically. "Our lifestyles have changed because we have to work so hard! I'm not saying we don't have our share of parties (laugh), but our lives may not be as party-hearty as some people think. When we were playing clubs in L.A., maybe we'd play a couple of shows a week. Getting time to party then was easy. But now, we're playing six shows a week and traveling between shows the rest of the time. If you don't take care of yourself, you can end up in big trouble. I've got to be extra careful because I'm a diabetic. If I don't take care of myself, I might wake up dead one morning.

With the incredible success they enjoyed right out of the proverbial box, this band knows they'll have to be more dedicated than ever if they want to hold onto their popularity. These guys, however, see their initial efforts as only the tip of the band's creative iceberg. Judging from the material on their new LP Swallow This they may just be right. With the material showing the same diversity as their debut, but with even more punch and flair - Poison seem prepared to scale the metal

mountain once again.

"We're in this for the long haul," Michaels said. "Hell, I don't know what I'd do if I didn't have a band to play in. I'd probably end up as a short-order cook at some hash house. But it's real annoying to hear people say we're a flash-in-the-pan or that we're only popular because of our videos. I don't think those people really listen to our songs. We're real proud of the material we've come up with because it captures things that are part of our lives. Maybe it's some chick we met on the road or somebody we miss back home — our songs are things the fans can relate to, that's what makes them good."

"The songs are so much better on this album," DeVille added. "A while back, when we were on tour, I was worried. I kept saying to myself, 'Shit, how are we gonna write new songs that are as good as the ones we had last time?' But then we started writing, and the things we came up with were even better than before! That really convinced me this band is gonna be a big hit for a long time. I really think somewhere down the line, people will consider Poison one of the classic rock and

roll bands."□



Don dokken: "It's good that my Corvette's got autopilot 'cause at four in the morning I'd just crawl home."

### Rock's Fastest Guns

## **Back For The Attack** Proves To Be Breakthrough Disc For West Coast Rockers.

#### by Adrianne Stone

Don't let Dokken fool you. On one hand, they're fun-loving partyhearty rock vagabonds out for the next big thrill. When they invite a iacuzzi-full of buxom beauties backstage after a trademark sweatand-six-strings show, it's not to play tiddlywinks. On the other hand (the one with money clenched tightly in its fist), they're a quartet of astute businessmen eager to achieve stardom. This doesn't mean merely a platinum album singer Don Dokken, bassist Jeff Pilson, drummer Mick Brown and guitarist George Lynch already boast such an award for their LP Tooth And Nail. It also doesn't mean writing a single for a movie score. They accomplished that with last year's Dream Warriors theme for the horror flick Nightmare On Elm Street.

What it does mean is the ability to live their lives to the fullest. When Don and Jeff shoot the breeze, they don't discuss partying and making the scene in Hollywood. Instead, their conversation goes more like this:

"I found a house for \$160,000 in Coldwater Canyon. This Japanese lady is selling it. I'll buy it for the hell of it," shrugs Don to Jeff.

"Well, I saw a house in Belvedere for 130 Grand. That's a steal!" replies Jeff.

Is this what it's all about? Bantering about real estate investments as easily as most people discuss the purchase of a new pair of jeans? Of course not. Despite their well-publicized interpersonal difficulties, this group remains a solid quartet of musicians whose prime interest is their music. "I'm obsessed with my music," states Don. "We did some pretty gruelling sessions on Back For The Attack — eight, nine, ten hours a day. But we're overachievers, and the more we accomplish, the more we want to make it better. If this album becomes a mega-hit, then we're gonna say, 'Well, what can we do to make the next record even better?' As the pressure gets worse and worse, some people crack and some people don't. Hopefully, we'll get over that sophomore slump."

Even while dealing with the pressures of recording Back For The Attack, Don lent his producing expertise to other artists who sought his talents. "I'd work on our album all day and then I'd go out in the middle of the night when I was half asleep to produce somebody else's music," he remembers. "The studio's only three miles away from my house, so I'd get in my car at four in the morning, and it's a good thing that my Corvette's got autopilot, 'cause I'd just crawl home."

Don's abilities are not confined to singing and producing, however. In fact, the tall vocalist cranks out a pretty mean tune on a guitar as well. "I like to play classical music on my guitar habitually, chronically," he claims. "George is a purist in his playing style. And he's a good writer too. But I've always liked the classical sound of the Scorpions, myself."

Why, then doesn't Don add his guitar talents to the band's tunes? Don only arches an eyebrow in reply, diplomacy being one of his better traits. Jeff too, is tactful when discussing band relationships. "What we've had problems with in the past is outside sources influencing things like choices for the singles that the band didn't agree with. This time around, we feel confident that we know what to do."

They know, for instance, that although they'd love to headline a major tour of their own, their opening slot on the current Aerosmith trek is a grand coup. With the memory of their aborted tour with Twisted Sister (due to lack of ticket sales) still fresh in his mind, Jeff explains, "Playing to a full house of 10,000 every night is sure better than playing to only 3,000. So we're grateful to be out with Aerosmith.

"Our concept," he continues, is a strong song, melodic as possible, over a hard rocking, high-energy rhythm. That's the kind of music I like. Everybody wants to hear melody — that's why the Beatles are still hot now, because they were a melodic high-energy band. I think we're getting closer to that all the time."

Jeff realizes, as do his bandmates, that luck has little to do with Dokken's success. "I don't believe in luck," he says. "I believe in perseverance and persistence and trying real hard. Certainly, our goal is to get to the superstar level. But the only way we're gonna do that is to just keep writing better songs and keep working at it. In retrospect, I'm glad success hasn't happened fast for us, because I think we're more in control of ourselves now and we're more ready to handle whatever might be coming around the

"We've matured, and we're very serious about songwriting," Jeff continued. "That's a very delicate process to us. Whatever success we've had so far really boils down to the songs — plus George's guitar, Don's voice, the fact the we do have a lot

ments. You know, a lot of people attain a certain level of success and then they lose sight of exactly what it was that made them successful to begin with. But we're not about to do that."

So when the guys in Dokken chat about expensive homes and cars, they're merely discussing commodities they've earned through several years of sweat and toil. Besides, they conscientiously find ways to share their wealth with those less fortunate than they are. In fact Don donates the little free time he has to visiting sick children. "If I had loads of money," he says, "I'd probably give it to charity — to people who are sick, to kids. I like to spend time with kids who are terminally ill. I hand out with them and shoot the shit and talk about stuff. It's my karma; it's my gig."

But perhaps the best indication of Dokken's happy balance between their financial and musical success comes from Don's mom. "My mother really digs me now," he smiles. "She's happy 'cause I was a bum for many years. I was the black sheep of the family and everybody said I was always soon?



## Taking On The World

#### Swedish Rockers Take Time Off To Gear Up For Next Album And Tour.

#### by Ernie "Spuds" McKenzie

he members of Europe know exactly how fickle American rock fans can be. For two years, beginning in 1984 with the release of their selftitled debut LP, this Swedish quintet tried in vain to crack the lucrative U.S. market. They released a second album, Wings Of Tomorrow, and did trans-Atlantic phone interviews with anyone who'd talk to them. The net results of those efforts? Nothing! Then last year the band released The Final Countdown, an interesting though far from spectacular LP that through a combination of factors including MTV video airplay and magazine coverage — rocketed Europe to the top. For vocalist Joey Tempest, drummer lan Haugland, bassist John Leven, keyboardist Mic Michaeli and guitarist Kee Marcello, their sudden double-platinum success was mind-boggling — though not boggling enough to prevent the band from undertaking two U.S. tours and begin working on their all-important followup LP. Recently, we hooked up with Tempest and Haugland to discuss the latest developments in the world of Europe.

Hit Parader: Is there extra pressure on you now, knowing that you're following up such a successful album as The Final

Countdown? Joey Tempest: There is pressure, but we like that. People forget that we were quite successful in Sweden before we became known in America, so there was pressure on us even before we recorded The Final Countdown. The fans in our homeland were expecting a great album, and as far as the rest of the world was concerned, we knew that that album

might be our last chance.

lan Haugland: We really aren't that concerned about the pressure this time because we know what we're capable of doing as a band. I think there is more pressure on you when you're trying to break through in a big market like America for the first time. It's nice when the question people ask us is "How successful will you be this time?" The last time the question we were asked was "Who are you?"

HP: Did you find your rather sudden fame and fortune in America difficult to deal with?

JT: When we were well-rested and ready

to deal with the parties and the people who suddenly flocked to us, we had no problems at all. But there were nights, like after our first headlining show in New York, when we were very tired, yet we still had to go to a party thrown in our honor. Now parties are never hard work and we enjoy them, but sometimes you'd really rather just go back to the hotel and go to sleep.

IH: I think that the positive aspects of being well-known far outweigh the negatives. We had a great time on the road last year, both in America and throughout the rest of the world. People always treat us very well, although we have noticed that some American fans, especially the girls, can be a bit aggressive at times - but we like that.

HP: Is there really that big a difference between fans in America and elsewhere?

JT: American rock fans are a bit more jaded. They know that if they don't go to a certain show, if they wait a week or so, another big band will be in town. In Sweden, you sometimes have to wait months to see a rock show. Let's face it, not too many bands want to tour there during the winter.

**HP:** How will your new album differ from The Final Countdown?

JT: At this point it's hard to say. We probably will follow a similar songwriting style because that's just the way we write. I don't think you'll see us doing a whole side of ballads like Carrie, and I don't think you'll see only hard rockers like Rock The Night. There are many different sides to Europe's musical personality, and we're anxious to show them all off when we go into the studio.

IH: We have written some very good songs this time. Joey may be a bit too modest to say it, but he is an incredible songwriter. He can take fantasy experiences, as well as things we've lived through, and turn them into great songs. It's a pleasure to work with someone like

HP: This album will be the first time you record with guitarist Kee Marcello, who replaced John Norum after The Final **Countdown**. How will that change the group's sound?

JT: We spent a great deal of time on the road with Kee, so we don't see there being any negative influence on the band. In fact, Kee shares our musical ideas much more than John did. John saw himself as something of a guitar hero, like Yngwie Malmsteen, and he was a bit frustrated by the limitations our music placed on him.

HP: What would you say is the key ingredient to Europe's sound?

JT: We like to think we have a classic European rock sound. We grew up listening to bands like UFO and Deep Purple — groups that used both keyboards and guitars and wrote great songs. If we have been able to bring those influences into a more modern context, we're very happy.

IH: I don't know if we really want to overanalyze what our sound is. It just seems that when we all get together onstage or in the recording studio, the music we make has a very distinctive quality. We're just happy we have it, and we're not going to wonder why.

HP: Joey, how annoyed are you by people who say your looks played a big part in the band's success?

JT: I really don't think about that very much. We've always been concerned with looking as good as we can onstage, so I'm pleased if people do notice our appearance. But I must say, I feel a little strange when I see big pictures of myself on someone's wall. I don't know if I'll ever feel totally comfortable with that. But I imagine if they have my picture on the wall, it means they like the music as well. To us, that's the most important thing.



## ichae onroe

## Life After Hanoi

#### Former Hanoi Rocks Frontman Returns To The Rock World With Nights Are So Long.

#### by Andy Secher

Michael Monroe may well be the best-known "unknown" on the rock scene. As lead vocalist for the influential Scandinavian band Hanoi Rocks, Monroe helped shape the sound and style of the metal realm before the group's untimely demise in 1984. Yet for all the impact Hanoi Rocks had on bands such as Jetboy. Faster Pussycat, Guns N' Roses and even Motley Crue, their commercial success in America never neared their artistic contributions. So today Monroe finds himself trying to re-build his career from square one. He's released an exciting new LP, Nights Are So Long, which captures much of the high-energy excitement that first made Hanoi Rocks a European sensation. Yet his music also shows a greater maturity and depth — facts that seem destined to make this charismatic, blond frontman one of the major success stories of 1988.

Hit Parader: Michael, it's been a while since we've heard from you. What have you been doing since Hanoi Rocks broke up a few years ago?

Michael Monroe: After our drummer, Razzle, died, we went back to London and tried to keep Hanoi Rocks alive. But then our bassist, Sam Yaffa - who's now in Jetboy - left the band, and I saw that from then on it would never be the same, so we broke the band up. Then I got together with Stiv Bators for a while, and we wrote some songs together, but nothing much happened with that. Afterwards,

I got involved in the Sun City project with Little Steven, and right after that Steven played guitar on some demo tracks I did, both of which ended up on my new album. After that I moved to New York and spent my time sleeping on people's floors and trying to get a band called Secret Chiefs together. We played some dates over in Finland last year, and it was good to get back home, but I knew my future was in New York, so that's why I'm here

HP: How did the new album come about? MM: Actually, when I was over in Finland with Secret Chiefs, I was able to get a small record deal with a budget of only about \$30,000. That's not very much, but it was enough to get back into the studio and lay down the tracks. In fact, having so little money to work with was a bit of an advantage because it forces us to keep the recording time to a minimum and it gave us the raw, live sound I was looking for. On top of that, I had friends like lan Hunter appear on the album, and since there was no money, they had to do it for free. But considering the handicaps we had, I'm very pleased with how the record turned out.

HP: Does it bother you that after all of Hanoi Rocks' impact on the rock scene, you're still struggling as a performer?

MM: No, not at all. I never wanted to become a millionaire because of music, I just wanted the chance to play. It's too bad that Hanoi Rocks never made it, because I think we should have - and we would have if the people at our record company were behind us. I happen to know that the man in charge of our album at the label once told his assistant to "take that shit off the turntable" when our record was playing. And then our managers back then screwed us over - we never saw any money at all.

HP: But how do you feel when you look around and see the influence you've had on bands like Jetboy and Guns N' Roses?

MM: It's very flattering, but I'm not that impressed by those bands. I really don't like the music they're playing. I'm more into roots rock than bands like that. But I don't think they're blatantly ripping off what we did. They're just borrowing certain aspects of it. But once you try to be something you're not, it never works

HP: How have you changed since your days with Hanoi Rocks?

MM: I think I write better songs and have more control over my music than I did back then. With me, the music always comes first, but I realize that image is very important too. I'm sick and tired of bands who seem to play their hair dryers better than they do their quitars.

HP: But wasn't Hanoi Rocks' image based on your appearance a great deal?

MM: Yes, but we had something real to back it up. We were a street band, and we dressed the way we looked onstage all the time. Today's bands dress a certain way because they think it's cool. It's not really them; it's something artificial, and that makes the music they play artificial as well. In Hanoi Rocks, we did what we wanted, and if people didn't like it, then we told 'em to fuck off! But a lot of what people said about us wasn't true. We could get pretty wild, but I wasn't into drugs or partying then, and I still am not today. Those things can be fun, but if you're a serious musician, they take a big toll. I've seen the dangers of drugs firsthand, and all I can do is warn kids to stay away.

HP: You seem less than thrilled with some of the music coming out of the Los Angeles rock scene these days. But one question we must ask is about the people who are making that music. Have you been in touch with Vince Neil since the auto accident in which Razzle was killed?

MM: To be honest, I've never met or spoken to Vince Neil in my life. I try not to dwell on what happened, but it does bother me to know that Motley Crue supposedly still drink Jack Daniels onstage each night. To me, that's just telling everyone they're not sorry about what happened. I get the feeling Vince Neil made all those public service announcements about drinking and driving just to avoid doing more time in jail.

HP: On a happier note, when do you figure you might be getting a band together and starting a tour?

MM: It's very important for me to work with other musicians in a band atmosphere. I don't mind having control over the group, but it's important to have excellent musicians who share the same dedication to music that I have. I was just talking to my old friend from Hanoi Rocks, Nasty Suicide, and I'd love to get him in my band to play guitar. But he's married and living in London, and asking him to leave his wife for a few months to tour America might be too much. But I'm confident I'll find the right musicians and hit the road very soon. It's been a long time since I've been out there, and I can't wait to get onstage again. 🗆

## TESLA

## Learning Their Lessons

Rick Mikels/Photos by Robyn Burn



Jeff Keith (left) and Frank Hannon: "We never thought we'd be in a successful band."

#### World Tour With Def Leppard Teaches Young Rockers New Tricks.

It's not all uncommon for a struggling band to leave the good of 'U.S. of A. and travel overseas to find their niche and fame. But what do you say when your manager tells you to pack up the van and head for Guam. GUAM?!?

"I tell you that's what we all said too when our manager told us that," says Tesla vocalist Jeff Keith. "You know, 'Why Guam, that's way out there.' But as it turned out that was a really good place for us. It was our first chance to write songs since I joined the band, and Tommy had just joined too."

After playing the Sacramento club circuit to its death, back in 1986, the band figured Guam would be relaxing, and the change of scenery would help motivate them. As it turned out the guys made some good money playing six-nights-a-week, five-sets anight-at a club called the Pescador which had a mixed turnout of natives and servicemen from the Navy and Air Force.

"It was a trip and we survived it. We were out there in Guam

for three months. We were actually sent there for two months and the club owner had the option to keep us for another four weeks. You know the saying 'signing your life away.' Well, we had no choice. We were ready to come home in two months but the club owner really liked us and kept us for another month. It was pretty gruesome. Sometimes we'd play all seven nights or during the day in the hot Guam sun. We played at this college there and they were a tough crowd. They didn't even come up to the stage. They just stood there with their arms folded. The military guys were an easier crowd. They would slam dance. It was hilarious. But that prepared us for going on the road with people like Def Leppard.

Upon their return home, Keith, guitarists Tommy Skeach and Frank Hannon, bassist Brian Wheat and drummer Troy Luccketta thought they'd try their luck at landing a record deal. Still calling themselves City Kidd, the band sent their demo to variou a&r guys until it fell into the hands of Geffen's Tom Zutaut, who in turn called his buddy, heavy metal manager, Cliff Burnstein for a

#### "I'm so lucky that sometimes I feel quilty."

Burnstein wasn't totally sure about the band's commercial appeal and told them to write more tunes. They did and soon after were signed to a record deal with Geffen Records and a management contract with Burnstein.

Halfway through recording their debut album, Mechanical Resonance, the band agreed that the name City Kid just wasn't happening. After hearing about Nikola Tesla (a noted scientist) through Burnstein, the band then changed their name to Tesla.

For Keith, singing and playing in a rock and roll band was like a dream come true. Only six years prior to his record deal had Keith picked up a guitar for the first time and with the help of a chord book, he taught himself to play. Periodic jams in the living room helped Keith develop his six-string skills, but it was a contest in his Sacramento hometown that first showed off vocal

'I went to the big city and entered this contest where you put on walkman headphones and lip sync into a live mike so people only heard you sing. It was hilarious. Some guys didn't even know the words to the songs they were singing and were so off key. My friends were cheering me on while I sang Sammy Hagar's I Can't Drive 55. I won. That was my start, basically.

"It's weird, because I've always looked at magazines like Hit Parader and was into music. I used to look at Steven Tyler and think God, that's what I want. I never thought I'd ever be in the

position of being in a successful band though."

Keith probably never would have dared imagine that years later he would share the tour stage with the likes of Leppard, David Lee Roth and Aerosmith. Especially on their recent road jaunt with the Leps, Tesla showed they're a band that can hold their own with anybody.

Tesla's set gave the audience their money's worth night after night. Playing riveting versions of Modern Day Cowboy and Little Suzi, their 30 minute set was received well and every night the band went home with a few thousand more fans under their

On the heels of the release of Tesla's soon-to-be-released second album, the band is concentrating on what they feel separates Tesla from the rest of the world's rockers — versatility.

'It's one of those things where people will listen to the album and say, 'it's not commercial,' but it's what we want. Instead of following the rules we wanted to just do what we felt was right and do what we wanted. If it doesn't work out at least we got to do it our way," Keith said.



Brian Wheat: This guy's lost 50 pounds on the rock and roll diet.

"With our last album people were like, where are you coming from putting 12 songs on the album.' We wanted to give people a couple of extra songs. Who cares if no one else does it. We're doing the same thing this time.

Tesla has a lot to look forward to in 1988, with the release of their new album the band will begin a major tour in the U.S. that

will probably stretch right into 1989.

"I'm so lucky that I feel quilty sometimes. When some big-time veteran musician gives me hard looks like, 'Man you just walked right into this you lucky little bastard,' I feel guilty. I understand you worked your butt off, but what can I say? That's how it turned out. We are lucky — but Tesla's a pretty good band, too."□

## Relebrity D RATE-A-RECORD

by Charley Crespo

"We've been listening to a lot of music for the last six or seven months, but it's our own music," says Michael Schenker, lead guitarist in MSG. So we presented the "Flying-V" master and lead vocalist Robin McAuley with a batch of recently-released 45s and asked them for their impressions.

#### Rock On Great White

Michael: To me, it sounds old fashioned, but people in America seem to like it. The singer sounds like Robert Plant. Maybe this kind of music is coming back.

Robin: I was just in Los Angeles, and the radio stations there still play Led Zeppelin all the time, so it's almost like Zeppelin just happened. This has traces of Led Zeppelin, and the singer sounds like Robert Plant, and even like Klaus Meine of the Scorpions at some points. It has sold very well — I believe it's gone gold — so best of luck to them.

#### It's Not Over ('Til It's Over) Starship

Robin: I like Mickey Thomas' vocals a lot. The combination of his voice and Grace Slick's is powerful. They've had quite a comeback on both sides of the Atlantic. They're pretty happening.

Michael: I've heard much greater things from them in the past.

#### Love Will Find A Way Yes

Robin: I'm a big fan of Yes. 90125 was one of the best-produced albums in many a year. I like Trevor Rabin and Jon Anderson's voice together. There are traces of the song *Changes* in there. I like it

Michael: Three years ago, when I first heard Owner Of A Lonely Heart, I couldn't believe it — the production knocked me out completely. Listening to this, the production doesn't sound so good. Maybe it isn't even a real snare drum. I like Yes very much, ever since their first album came out when I was 15 or so. This song doesn't knock me out, but it might grow on me after I hear it a few times. I'd like to hear it on a radio.

#### The Lost Boys Lou Gramm

Robin: It's an average song, but he's such a good singer that he carries it. If it wasn't for him, the song wouldn't even make it. He's one of the best vocalists in the world, maybe even the best. I'm glad he got back into the studio with Foreigner and recorded another album. He's one of my idols.

Michael: I like the chorus. I don't like the production. He's a very good singer. It's incredible that with Foreigner, every album's a

monster. Everybody talks about how the singer is incredible even though Mick Jones produces everything.

#### You Are The Girl The Cars

Michael: What I like about the Cars is that I only have to hear the first sound of the vocals and I know it's the Cars, always. Ric Ocasek has an unusual voice. Their first single, Just What I Needed, was excellent. This is okay, except the beat sounds too much like a drum machine. It's commercial enough though.

Robin: They've been around for a hell of a long time, churning it out but sticking to their guns. Ric's voice is distinctive. It's commercial, but they've had better singles.

#### Lil Devil The Cult

Robin: I first turned on to the Cult with their very first single, She Sells Sanctuary, which went to No. 1 in England. They're still trying to find themselves. Image-wise, they're psychedelic, but musically, they're trying very hard to get the heavy rock audience. They come across quite powerfully as a rock band onstage, but on record they don't have that presence yet. I prefer She Sells Sanctuary; it's my favorite single from them so far.

Michael: This song's not for me, sorry.

#### I Won't Forget You Poison

Robin: I didn't particularly like *Talk Dirty To Me* either, but they're not my kind of band. It might be unfair for me to say that the lyrics are classroom, but then their audience is also classroom. It is a catchy single.

**Michael:** It's much better than *Talk Dirty To Me*The guitar sound on the first one was horrible,

but the guitar here is pretty good. Maybe it was remixed. I don't understand how they sold so many albums.

#### l Could Have Been A Dreamer

Robin: Ronnie is a really nice guy and he has an unbelievable set of lungs. I like Dio; I'd be interested in hearing the album. The chorus has a good melody, and Craig Goldie sounds very good, even though I liked Vivian Campbell very much

Michael: I like the chorus, but I don't think very much of the rest, although Dio is an excellent singer. I don't like saying bad things about records, but I can't lie.

#### Wild Side Motley Crue

Robin: In any single, it's adventurous to have a time change. The drum sound is phenomenal. I like this better than *Girls*, *Girls*, *Girls*, though that was tongue in cheek. I could see it being a really good live number.

Michael: I don't like the time change, but the drum sound is very good.

#### Victim Of Love Bryan Adams

Michael: This song has funny chords. It's not on the level as some of his other songs — and he's written so many good ones — but I enjoy listening to it. Not because of the song, but because of the production, the overall sound, the guitar, the drums, his voice — everything but the song.

Robin: It's the combination of Bryan Adams and Bob Clearmountain that makes this sound so good, but I can't tell how much of it is Bryan and how much of it is Bob. If it's Bob, put him on the list of producers to get in touch with for our next album. Bryan's voice is great. I hope he stays Bryan Adams and doesn't fall into a Bruce Springsteen mold. We saw him do this on the MTV Awards because we were on it too, and it sounded great.

Robin McAuley (left) and Michael Schenker: "Maybe Great White can bring back old-fashioned-sounding music."

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## CINDERELLA A TIME OF DECISION

Vocalist/Songwriter Tom Keifer Reveals Band's Plans Of Conquest.

#### by Rick Hunter

Tom Keifer is the brains behind Cinderella. That isn't exactly a shock to anyone who noted Keifer's songwriter/guitarist/vocalist role on the band's double-platinum debut, **Night Songs**. But unlike many of today's rock personalities, Keifer is a bit of an enigma — a soft-spoken, somewhat reclusive guy who'd just as soon hang around his Philadelphia home writing new songs as go to a hot party. Recently we hooked up with Tom to learn more about the man who is the driving force behind Cinderella's rock and roll machine.

Hit Parader: Tom, you seem like a very calm, level-headed guy who's got the answers to most of life's problems. Is there anything that gets you really upset? Tom Keifer: I guess I am calm most of the time, but I can remember one show we played on the last tour when some of the stage monitors went out. Now I've never walked off a stage in my life, but I was so annoyed at not being able to hear what was going on that I walked off and started screaming at some of the crew. I think they were as surprised by my outburst as I was. But those things happen. You learn to deal with them.

**HP:** You spent most of 1987 criss-crossing the world on tour. What do you miss most when you're on the road all the time?

**TK:** I guess the thing I miss most is my old lady. We have a real special relationship. She's a graphic artist who is incredibly talented as well as being a real warm, supportive kind of person. She's the one who designed our logo. We recently got married — when we got off the road last time — but even before that we were living together and were very close. We've gone through a lot together, both good and bad.

**HP:** When you get a chance to relax at home what do you do? Are you a workaholic?

TK: Nah, I work on music because I enjoy it, but I'm definitely not a workaholic. My favorite thing to do when I'm at home is just lay around and listen to CDs and just fuck off. I don't have a really big home. In fact, I guess by rock standards it's kind of a dump. But all my stuff is there, and it's real comfortable. I'm happy, though I imagine I may end up moving to a bigger place before too long.

**HP:** Did you bring your wife on the road with you last time?

TK: I tried to bring her out as often as I could. Women

know exactly what shows to come out for. They're not that big on hopping a plane to fly to someplace in the Midwest in the middle of winter, but if you have a gig in Florida or Puerto Rico, somehow they're always able to make time for those trips. We always kid our girlfriends and wives about that.

HP: How difficult was it adjusting to all the travel and the strange hotels you guys had to stay in on the road? TK: I can adjust to anything and anyplace. If I'm tired, I can lay down just about anywhere and go to sleep. Distractions don't bother me, so hotels and buses aren't a problem at all. In fact, they can be kind of fun. I think I had a bigger problem adjusting to being back home. I woke up the first few mornings and thought I was in Cleveland for a second or two.

HP: After all the hard work you put behind Night Songs, is it hard to gear up again for the new album? TK: Not at all. We've never really gotten away from the music. I don't think a day goes by that I don't at least think about a song I'm writing. Maybe I don't work at actually writing or playing every day when I'm home, but it's close. To me, it's not really work because it's a lot of fun. We're looking forward to hearing how the fans will react to the new album. It's called Long, Cold Winter, and we're pretty confident that they'll like it because it's similar in many ways to the first one. But you never know how fans in this business will react to anything.

**HP:** Come on, you're not telling us that you're actually concerned about Cinderella's future success, are you? **TK:** We've learned never to take anything for granted. I don't want to ever see us develop the attitude of "Hey, we've got it made. We can kick back and relax". That's not cool. You've got to keep pushing as hard as you can.

**HP:** By now, you must be sick of all the comparisons that have been made between Cinderella and bands like the Stones and Aerosmith. Are you doing anything on the new album to rid yourselves of those comparisons?

TK: There's really not much that I can do about it. As I've said over and over again, I grew up on Aerosmith and the Stones. Those influences aren't something I think about and plan. We're just playing good ol' rock and roll, and if people want to compare us to some of the best rock and roll bands that ever existed, we'll take it as a compliment. But if people say I'm trying to imitate Jagger or Tyler, I'll argue about that. I can't help it if we all have big lips. That's genetics, not rock and roll.

HP: Do you want to headline your own tour this time? TK: That'll be up to the fans as much as it is up to us. We did play some headline shows at the end of our last tour, and those were a lot of fun. We had a great time opening for Bon Jovi and David Lee Roth, and we wouldn't change those experiences for anything, but there is something special about playing your own headlining show. But, as I said, it's up to the fans. If they buy this record the way they bought the first one, then maybe we'll do it. If they don't, we may have to take any gig we can find.





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## Rindie S REVIEWS

by Andy Secher

RATING SYSTEM: \*\*\*\*\* = excellent \*\*\*\* = very good \*\*\* = good \*\* = fair \* = poor

#### Laaz Rocket Know Your Enemy

Laaz Rocket came to the attention of many metal mashers through Hit Parader's Wild Bunch cassette a few years back. Since then, the band has gone through some personnel changes, but their style still packs the wallop of a .44 magnum. Rallying around the vocals of Michael Coons and the dual-lead guitar efforts of Aaron Jellum and Phil Kettner, this California quintet's latest LP (and debut on Enigma Records), Know Your Enemy, shows that they're ready for big-time recognition. Such tracks as Demolition and Most Dangerous Game tightwalk between power metal mayhem and mainstream hard rock with consistently effective results. Rating: \*\*\*\*

#### Holy Terror Terror And Submission

Black metal continues to be one of hard rock's most popular sub-genres. In the hands of a capable band such as Holy Terror, the form is also one of the most powerful styles in the rock universe. Drawing heavily on influences like Black Sabbath and Dio, Holy Terror's LP, Terror And Submission, explores the often-macabre black metal underworld with energy and surprising intelligence. While such song titles as Black Plague and Blood Of The Saints seem somewhat predictable and boring, this Southern California metal mad quintet transform those well-worn themes into high-voltage vehicles for their riff-laden approach.

#### Zoetrope A Life Of Crime

Traditionally, when a band's drummer also serves as vocalist, it's bad news in an act's quest for success. But with Zoetrope's Barry Stern, that old axiom can be thrown out the window. Stern's powerful bellowing — as well as his strong-armed skin-beating — help make the band's LP, A Life Of Crime, one of the year's most volcanic thrash metal outings. Unquestionably, Zoetrope is an acquired taste, but if you like your metal raw and rocking, check out such tracks as Seeking Asylum, NASA and Prohibition.

Rating: \*\*\*

#### Racer X Second Heat

Racer X's Paul Gilbert has been widely acclaimed as one of metal's budding guitar stars — the reason for which is readily apparent from his six-string virtuosity on Racer X's latest album **Second Heat**. Along with fellow axe-slinger Bruce Bouillet, vocalist Jeff

Martin, drummer Scott Travis and bassist John Aldrete, Gilbert's slick-fingered stylings mark Racer X as a promising young group on the metal scene. Though the band's material could use a bit more polish, Gilbert's guitar histrionics make **Second Heat** worthy of note.

Rating: \*\*\*

#### Agnostic Front Liberty & Justice For...

Long a leader in rock's hardcore movement, Agnostic Front take one step closer to the metal/hardcore demilitarized zone with their latest LP, Liberty & Justice For... Though their "skinhead" appearance and fast 'n furious style still say "hardcore," songs such as Another Side, Crucial Moment and Stregnth proclaim themselves as "metal" loudly and proudly. This is an interesting band, to say the least, but if your head is into Bon Jovi and Poison, avoid them like the plague.

#### Kat Worship Me Or Die

She claims to be the fastest guitarist in the world. She brags that her debut LP, Worship Me Or Die, is the best metal album of the year. She swears she's metal's female messiah. Well, the fact is that Kat — or The Great Kat, as she prefers — is fast and her album is good — but this blonde bomber sure ain't no metal messiah. If you're in the mood for a novelty album played with undeniable conviction, then check this woman out — or die! — Rating: \*\*\*

Bob Gruen

The Great Kat: No metal messiah.

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82/I Could Have Been A Dreamer

92/Lady Red Light 80/Lock And Key

80/Never Say Never

88/Night People

77/Paradise City

90/Rag Doll 76/Reason To Live

90/Save Your Love

78/Wait, The 87/Welcome To The Jungle

# **REASON TO LIVE**

As recorded by Kiss

PAUL STANLEY DESMOND CHILD

Out of love
There's nobody around
All I hear is the sound of a
broken heart
Out of time
No more waitin' for you
Now the hurtin's through
And a new day starts.

And I feel a change in my life I sailed into dark and endless nights
I made it alive.

Everybody's got a reason to live baby

Everybody's got a dream and a hunger inside Everybody's got a reason to live

But it can't be your love.

Out of touch
With myself for so long
Now a feelin' so strong's comin'
over me
Down the line
There's a lesson I've learned
You can love and get burned
If it has to be.

And I see a change in my life And I'm not alone when I'm strong inside And I realize.

Everybody's got a reason to live baby Everybody's got a dream and a

hunger inside Everybody's got a reason to live

Everybody's got a reason to live But it can't be your love.

And I feel a change in my life And I'm not alone when I'm strong inside And I realize.

Everybody's got a reason to live baby

Everybody's got a dream and a hunger inside

Everybody's got a reason to live But it can't be your love

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# PARADISE CITY

As recorded by Guns N' Roses

## **GUNS N' ROSES**

Just a' urchin livin' under the street

I'm a hard case that's tough to beat

I'm your charity case So buy me somethin' to eat I'll pay you at another time Take it to the end of the line.

Ragz to richez or so they say Ya gotta keep pushin' for the fortune and fame It's all a gamble When it's just a game Ya treat it like a capital crime Everybody's doin' their time.

Take me down To the Paradise City Where the grass is green And the girls are pretty Take me home.

Strapped in the chair of the city's gas chamber Why I'm here I can't quite remember The Surgeon General says it's hazardous to breath I'd have another cigarette but I

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# HYSTERIA

As recorded by Def Leppard

STEPHEN CLARK PHIL COLLEN JOSEPH ELLIOTT RICHARD SAVAGE ROBERT LANGE

Out of touch
Out of reach yeah
You could try
To get closer to me
I'm in luck
I'm in deep yeah
Hypnotized
I'm shakin' to my knees.

I gotta know tonight If you're alone tonight Can't stop this feelin' Can't stop this fire.

Oh I get hysterical hysteria
Oh can you feel it
Oh can you feel it
Do you believe it
It's such a magical mysteria
When you get that feelin'
When you get that feelin'
Better start believin'
'Cos it's a miracle
Oh say you will ooh babe
Hysteria when you're near.

Out of me

Can't stop this fire.
Oh I get hysterical hysteria
Oh can you feel it
Oh can you feel it
Do you believe it
It's such a magical mysteria
When you get that feelin'
When you get that feelin'
Better start believin'
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Do you believe it
It's such a magical mysteria
When you get that feelin'
When you get that feelin'
Better start believin'
Better start believin'
'Cos it's a miracle
Oh say you will ooh babe, ooh
babe oh

I get hysterical hysteria When you get that feelin' You'd better believe it Better start believin' 'Cos it's a miracle Oh say you will ∩h bahe



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RUN DMC &
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(RAGE FOR ORDER)
BR3 T-SHIRT
SAXON (TOUR)
G950 T-SHIRT
MONKEES (GROUP)

# LOCK AND KEY

As recorded by Rush

LIFESON PEART

I don't want to face The killer instinct Face it in you or me.

We carry a sensitive cargo Below the waterline Ticking like a time bomb With a primitive design.

Behind the finer feelings This civilized veneer Heart of a lonely hunter Guards a dangerous frontier.

The balance can sometimes fail Strong emotion can tip the scale.

Don't want to silence a desperate voice For the sake of security No one wants to make a terrible On the price of being free.

I don't want to face The killer instinct Face it in you or me So we keep it under lock and Lock and key.

It's not a matter of mercy It's not a matter of laws Plenty of people will kill you For some fanatical cause.

It's not a matter of conscience A search for probable cause It's just a matter of instinct A matter of fatal flaws.

No reward for resistance No assistance No applause.

I don't want to face The killer instinct Face it in you or me So we keep it under lock and key. (Repeat)

Don't want to silence a desperate voice For the sake of security No one wants to make a terrible choice On the price of being free. (Repeat chorus)

We don't want to be victims On that we all agree So we lock up the killer instinct And throw away the key.

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# **NEVER SAY NEVER**

As recorded by Triumph

**KIK EMMETT** MIKE LEVINE GIL MOORE SIL SIMONE

Keeping the faith is a constant fight We live and we breathe it And when you feel the cause is right You gotta believe it Which is stronger your hope or your fear Meet the challenge of your life.

Never say never Don't let me down Try to understand Never say never I will always be around Never say never again.

They say if you're not aware of

history You're doomed to repeat it You gotta face up to your enemy 'N' try to defeat it Somehow you can find the strength Somewhere that's deep down inside.

Never say never Don't let me down Try to understand Never say never I will always be around Never say never, never say never again.

I still believe in the power of truth That the fire of freedom Can burn in the heart of a song Dare to dream in all that you do Forever can never be wrong. (Repeat chorus)

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Motley Crue - 4x4 Grave Digger Motley Crue - no trespassing

Motiley Crue - no freepassing Iron Maiden - Aces High from Maiden - Live after Death from Maiden - Somewhere in Time Megadeth - Peace Seile Megadeth - Filt for Thrist Ozzy - The Ultimate Sin Wasp - Electric Grous Wasp - Last Command Keel - Final Frontier Cover Kill - Feel the Fire Cover Kill - Feel the Fire Cover Kill - Feel the Fire Medadeth Cover Kill - Feel the Fire Medadeth Cover Kill - Feel the Fire Cover Kill - Feel the Fire Medadeth Cover Kill - Feel the Fire Medadeth Cover Kill - Feel the Fire Medadeth Cover Medadeth snake - '87 Tour

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LR3 - Spiked years (S-M-L)
LR3 - Spiked guantlet. Sr wide. \$19.95.
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Sh8 -

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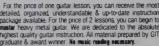
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# I COULD HAVE BEEN A DREAMER

As recorded by Dio

RONNIE JAMES DIO CRAIG GOLDY

Running with the wolf pack Feel like I'm never coming back And everytime there's sunshine I'm blind yeah.

I am everybody And everyone that I know is me And everyone that I know won't

I could have been a dreamer I could have been a shooting star

I could have been a dreamer.

I'm another number And you know the numbers must agree But everytime the wind blows I can't fly Why.

We take away tomorrow And never see the end of today Lock it up and send it away Forever.

I could have been a dreamer I could have been a shooting

I could have been a dreamer 'Cause dreams are what we are I could have been a dreamer.

Running with the wolf pack Feel like I'm never coming back But maybe that was sunshine That I saw.

I've heard about⊙ rainbow I've heard it makes you crazy I think I'm goin' crazy Crazy 'cause I see.

I could have been a dreamer I could have been a shooting star

I could have been a dreamer 'Cause dreams are what we are Dreamer, dreamer Dreamer, dreamer.

Running with the wolf Feel like I'm never coming back.

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# GIVE ME ALL YOUR LOVE

As recorded by Whitesnake

DAVID COVERDALE JOHN SYKES

When I first saw you baby You took my breath away I knew your name was trouble But my heart got in the way I could stop myself from reaching out I could not turn away.

I don't even know your name I can't leave you alone I'm running 'round in circles Like a dog without a bone I know the game you're playing But baby I just can't let go.

So give me all your love tonite Give me all your love tonite I'll do anything you want Just give me all of your lovin'

I'll work hard everyday To love and treat you right I'll rock you in the morning And roll you in the nite Any way you want I'm gonna prove my love for

So give me all your love tonite Give me all your love tonite I'll do anything you want Just give me all of your lovin' tonite, tonite, tonite. (Repeat)

I'm blinded by your smile I'm crazy bout your walk I shiver and I shake When I hear you baby talk I'm a fool for your lovin' babe Give me all your love tonite. (Repeat chorus)

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# GOOD GIRL GONE BAD

As recorded by Kiss

GENE SIMMONS DAVITT SIGERSON PETER DIGGINS

It ain't love
But it ain't so bad
She ain't nothin'
Like you ever had
Face of a woman
Hands of a child
Yeah been a long time comin'
Now she's goin' wild.

Well I know she ain't the girl next door But she ain't the girl she was before.

She's a good girl gone bad One kiss can drive me mad Good girl come on Show me the way.

The girl can't help it
She's out of control
I gotta have her
She's so hot to hold
Yeah she's gettin' her way
But I'm havin' my fun
Steamin' up the window
With the radio on.

Well she ain't searchin'
She knows the score
It ain't love she's lookin' for
For now she's gone too far
She found love in the back of
my car.

She's a good girl gone bad
One kiss can drive me mad
Good girl (come on)
Show me the way
She's a good girl gone bad
Best love I ever had
Good girl (come on)
Take me away
Oh take me away
Take me away.

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# WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE

As recorded by Guns N' Roses

### GUNS N' ROSES

Welcome to the jungle
We got fun 'n' games
We got everything you want
Honey we know the names
We are the people that can find
Whatever you may need
If you for the money honey
We got your disease.

In the jungle
Welcome to the jungle
Watch it bring you to your
knees, knees
I wanna watch you bleed.

Welcome to the jungle We take it day by day If you want it you're gonna bleed
But it's the price you pay
And you're a very sexy girl
That's very hard to please
You can taste the bright lights
But you won't get them for free
In the jungle
Welcome to the jungle
Feel my, my, my serpentine
I, I wanna hear you scream.

Welcome to the jungle
It gets worse here everyday
Ya learn ta live like an animal
In the jungle where we play
If you got a hunger for what you
see
You'll take it eventually
You can have anything you
want
But you better not take it from
me.

(Repeat chorus)

And when you're high you never Ever want to come down yeah.

You know where you are You're in the jungle baby You're gonna die In the jungle Welcome to the jungle Watch it bring you to your knees, knees In the jungle Welcome to the jungle Feel my, my, my serpentine In the jungle Welcome to the jungle Watch it bring you to your knees, knees In the jungle Welcome to the jungle Watch it bring you to your It's gonna bring you down ha.

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As recorded by Dio

**RONNIE JAMES DIO VINNY APPICE** JIMMY BAIN CRAIG GOLDY **CLAUDE SCHNELL** 

Do you like the dark Do you like the way it moves Do you come alive when neon Kills the sun Are you hypnotized Part of the illusion See how they run.

It's the mystery Poetry and passion Innocence and fashion Revolution **Evolution** ways Night people.

Are you satisfied With the lessons that you're learnina Is the fire really burning Do you know.

Hey dream child Promises are spoken And promises are broken Electric eyes that never let you See them in the day.

Night people Night people.

Do you like the dark Do you like the way it moves Do you come alive when neon Kills the sunshine Are you hypnotized Innocence and fashion Promises and passion **Evolution** Revolution ways.

Night people Night people.

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# RAG DOLL

As recorded by Aerosmith

STEVEN TYLER JOE PERRY JIM VALLANCE HOLLY KNIGHT

Rag doll

Living in a movie
Hot tramp
Daddy's little cutie
You're so fine
They'll never see ya leavin' by
the back door
Man
Hot time
Get it while it's easy
I don't mind
Come on up and see me
Rag doll
Baby don't you do me like you
done before.

I'm feelin' like a bad boy
Mmm just a-like a bad boy
I'm rippin' up a rag doll
Like throwin' away an old toy
Some babe's talkin' real loud
Talking all about the new crowd
Try and sell me on an old dream
A new version of the old scene
Speak easy on the grape vine
Keep shufflin' in the shoeshine
Old tin lizzy
Do it till you're dizzy
Give it all ya got until you're put
out of your misery.
(Repeat chorus)

Yes I'm movin' Yes I'm movin' Get ready for the big time
Tap dancin' on a land mine
Yes I'm movin'
Yes I'm movin'
Old tin lizzy
Do it till you're dizzy
Give it all ya got until you're put
out of your misery.

Rag doll

Living in a movie Hot tramp Daddy's little cutie You're so fine They'll never see ya leavin' by the back door Man Hot time Get it while it's easy I don't mind Come on up and see me Raq doll Baby won't you do me Baby won't you do me Baby won't you do me like you done before.

Yes I'm movin'
Yes I'm movin'
Get ready for the big time
Get crazy on the moonshine
Yes I'm movin'
I'm really movin'
Sloe gin fizzy
Do it till you're dizzy
Give it all you got until you're
put out of your misery.
(Repeat chorus)

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# **SAVE YOUR LOVE**

As recorded by Great White

## RUSSELL WILLIAMS

Awake in the night
To find you on my mind
Deep in a dream
You'll always be
Until the end of time
I look in your eyes
They touch my soul
My love is hard to hide
I'm never alone
When we're apart
I feel you by my side.

And here in my heart
Where no one else will ever be
I know who you are
So lock the door
And throw away the key
Save all your love
Save your love for me.

When I'm alone at night
You're all I see
I wake from a dream
And see you by my side
How could I belong
To someone else
When holdin' you feels so right.

And here in my heart
Where no one else will ever be
We've made it so far
So lock the door
Throw away the key yeah
Save all your love
Save your love for me.

When I'm alone at night You're all I see Save all your love Save your love for me.

Don't turn your back on me You're all I need.

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Too long without your touch Too long without your love Ooh my lady of lights I'm coming over for you.

I call you lover Ooh I call you friend But when I need another She's got a heart A heart to lend.

Lady red light Rock me tonight Baby's got a way to make it alright Lady red light Rock me tonight She really knows how to move My lady red light Lady red light.

A shadow of night Waiting in time Really no need to be cold and alone I've made up my mind Who I need to see.

I call you lover Ooh I call you friend But when I need another She's got a heart A heart to lend. (Repeat chorus)

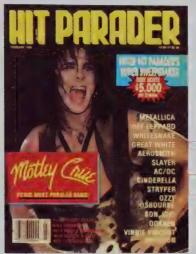
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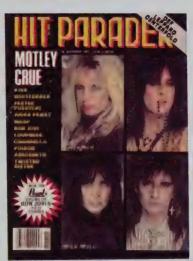
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## July, 1987

Motley Crue — A Dash Of Flash Kiss — Grace Under Pressure Led Zeppelin — To Be Or Not To Be Guns N' Roses — Street Tough Aerosmith — Good Times, Bad Times

### August, 1987

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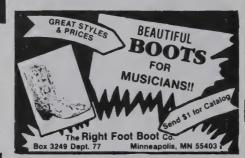
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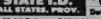
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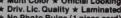
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-by Michael Shore

Ivory, with a rich, delicate, "antiqued" look, which is available on guitar models 1, 1A and the 1B bass.

For more info on Charvel's guitars and finishes, write The Charvel Guitar Co., P.O. Box 2344, Ft. Worth, TX 76113. □

In the past decade or so, there have been lots of new quitar makers who've come along and made such hot, innovative axes they've become as recognizable and popular as the longtime standbys, Gibson and Fender. Ibanez, Kramer and Hamer are a few who come immediately to mind, but the single hottest of these new names — especially for the pros who grace the pages of mags like Hit Parader may be Charvel. Solid construction, wild-looking custom finishes, super-fast playability and super-hot sounds have put them right at the top of the field for rockers. And Charvel has just introduced a new top-of-the-line guitar and some new finishes.

The new instrument is the Model 6, featuring a maple neck-through-body design and solid poplar wings, and a full 24-fret rosewood fingerboard with the distinctive Jackson-style inlay. The fingerboard and headstock are bound in celluloid for protection and to ensure the

durability of their finishes.

But perhaps the most interesting thing about Charvel's new Model 6 is its pickups and electronics setup. There are two Jackson J-200 bi-level humbuckers and one Jackson J-50BC humbucker, all coupled to Jackson JE-1200 mid-boost active electronics. Active electronics, as opposed to the traditional "passive" setup, give you more decisive tonal control, as well as a sound that's clearer and hotter, not to mention tailor-made for radio-amp hookups onstage. What's already a more tonally-versatile guitar is given an even wider range of sound colors by the "mid-boost" circuitry, which offers a full 6 dB boost of midrange frequencies centered at 650 Hz. This lets you fatten up the midrange for a full, rich Gibson-style sound, or thin it out for a lean and mean, biting Fender-style sound. Of course, you can experiment with in-between settings, and that, combined with having three hot humbucking pickups, allows for an amazing range of possible sounds.

The Model 6 comes in a choice of finishes - Pearl White, Red, Black, Black Cherry and Cobalt Blue — and lists for \$1049.95. That may seem like a lot for a guitar and I guess it is, but hey, if you want the top of the line from one of the hottest quitar-makers around, it's more than worth it.

Meanwhile, Charvel has added two new finishes to its line of electric guitars and basses — Electric Blue, a strikingly bright and vibrant metallic blue, is available on guitar models 2, 3 and 3A and on the Model 2B bass; and Vintage

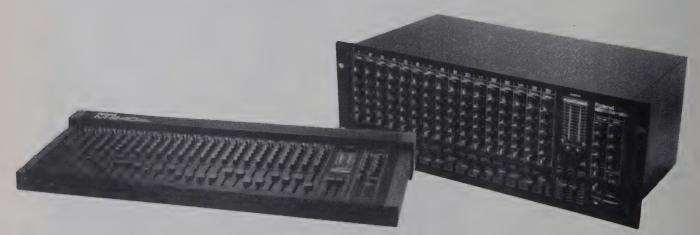


The Charvel Model 6: A maple-neck-through-body design and a full 24-fret rosewood fingerboard.



### YAMAHA DX7S SYNTH

Few keyboard synthesizers have taken the music world by storm the way the Yamaha DX7 has. This state-of-the-art baby is everywhere, especially in big-time bands. Of course, such an in-demand, do-it-all synth is priced accordingly — as in out-of-reach of most of us mere mortals. But now Yamaha has brought out the DX7S, a moderately priced addition to the DX7II series of digitally programmable algorithm synths. It features many of the usual DX7IIId/FD's new parameters and enhancements, as well as a single 16-note FM tone generator, all for a suggested retail price of under \$1500, which may sound expensive but is still a lot closer to earth than one might expect for so much synth. The DX7S' memory can hold 64 voices and 32 performance memories, including both voice and function data. It allows for non-standard tunings and Random Pitch Shift (a slight, random detuning of each note on the 5-octave keyboard, adding to the fullness and lifelike quality of the voice you're using — especially valuable with grand piano sounds). There's also a new Low Frequency Oscillator for Tremolo and Vibrato effects which applies separately to each individual note when each key is played, for much more realistic ensemble sounds and effects. There's a volume slider, two continuous sliders, pitch and modulation wheels, a backlit LCD programming display and two alpha-numeric LED's, front inputs for breath controller and headphones and, of course, extensive MIDI system controls. For more info on the DX7S, write Yamaha Music Corp., USA, P.O. Box 6600, Buena Park, CA 90622-6600.



### **ROLAND MIXERS**

If you're a gigging band who've got a keyboardist with lotsa synths, and maybe even a guitarist who uses a guitar synthesizer and perhaps a drummer with some electronic drum pads in his kit, may have discovered that with all these players accessing a wide range of electronic instruments, a good affordable multi-channel audio line mixer would be a really neat thing to have. Roland to the rescue, with their new M-240 and M-160 24- and 16-channel audio line mixers, which offer professional-grade audio quality with ample input channels and a price that's pretty nice — especially considering what nice boards they are. They both use professional line level (+4 dB) inputs and outputs for a very high signal-to-noise ratio, low distortion and outstanding frequency response. Each main output is equipped with balanced XLR connectors as well as unbalanced phone jacks. Both units also feature controls for sensitivity, three effects sends, auxiliary, pan and channel faders. Built-in send and return jacks allow for connection to multiple effect units, and both units feature three stereo returns and a fourth return with a pan pot, not to mention four effects/sends on each channel including an auxiliary input with Pre/Post selection. Easy to read level meters and peak indicators, Headphone Bus In jack and compact, sleek design are other important features. For more info, write RolandCorp US, 7200 Dominion Circle, Los Angeles, CA 90040.



### KORG DIGITAL REVERB

Korg's new DRV-1000 digital reverb uses advanced digital technology to put 128 reverb sounds at the disposal of any musician not just any sound engineer — because this unit is not only high quality, it's surprisingly accessible and affordable. An easy-to-use rotary control on the front panel selects from the unit's repertoire and Vocal Plates. It also simulates reverberant environments like Garage, Room and Large or Small Hall. Each program can be specifically tailored with an 8-position Time rotary control, which has actual decay times that vary with the program selected. A High Damp control regulates the brightness of the sound, and there are a Wet/Dry mix control, a rotary volume control and an LED ladder for input level. Rear-panel foot switch jacks for Cancel and Long functions give performers additional flexibility in using the DRV-1000. Long automatically programs the maximum reverb time for whatever program you're using and gives you a "reverb-drenched" sound for solos or other highlighted passages, while Cancel bypasses the reverb processing and sends the dry signal through to the output. The A/C-powered unit lists for just \$479.95. For more info, write Korg USA Inc., 89 Frost St., Westbury, NY 11590.



### **MARKLEY 5-STRING BASS STRINGS**

With more and more bassists using 5string basses these days, Dean Markley has recognized that a particular new type of string sets is needed for these instruments. Voila, Dean Markley's new "5-String Super Round" bass sets. They feature a loud and clean attack, and exceptional response to even the lightest playing styles. Wound with a supertechnologically advanced process for a tight outer wrap to prevent that horrible loose and floppy feeling, they also get the most out of bass pickups, with a superior magnetic alloy for power and tone. 5-String Super Rounds are available in all popular gauges, including Light, Medium Light and Medium. Suggested retail price is \$41 per set. For more info, write Dean Markley Strings Inc., 3350 Scott Blvd., #45, Santa Clara, CA 95054.

# STAR TAL Metal's Biggest Stars Reveal Their Secrets.

# by Adrianne Stone

Each month, Star Talk brings you personal stories from some of your favorite rock stars. Do you lose sleep at night wondering how Nikki Sixx maintains his muscular physique? Do you daydream about what C.C. DeVille misses most when he's on the road? Do you spend hours pondering what sport Joe Elliott indulges in during his spare time? You might be spending too much time with your headphones blasting at 10"... or you might have a very valid reason for asking Star Talk for help.

Here's your chance to ask your favorite metal mashers those mindboggling questions. Star Talk will hunt down your favorite rockers (to the ends of the earth... or at least to Brooklyn!) to answer you. Just send your questions to: STAR TALK, c/o Hit Parader Magazine, Charlton Building, Derby, CT

This month's question: Has AIDS changed the lifestyles of rock stars? (Susan Gooden, Queens, NY)

DON DOKKEN: "It's just a matter of you change orifices and you plug it in differently. No, I'm only kidding. Enough of the crudities. It's amazing that more bands don't have AIDS. I've been to a lot of concerts and I think, 'Jesus Christ, we have Sodom and Gomorrah over here.' Personally, you just have to be a lot more careful."

BRIAN VOLMER (HELIX): "It's definitely changed people's attitudes. It's not just the sexual thing, it's a whole health thing where people aren't doing drugs anymore or drinking. AIDS has changed things for me. The problem is it you've carried the virus without knowing it for ten years... it's definitely on my mind. I don't go and sleep with just anybody I meet anymore because you can die.

STEPHEN PEARCY (RATT): "Have you ever seen the movie Spinal Tap? One of the things that was really funny was when they all had that Herpes sore on their lips. It hasn't happened to Ratt, but we've seen other bands who run around and they all have Herpes on their face. When it comes to AIDS, let's hope to God nobody gets it. It's a nasty thing and, obviously something you can get from anybody - and rock and roll has a lot of 'free spirits' abounding. But, we're disease-free in this band."

ROSS THE BOSS (MANOWAR): "Only an idiot would go around having sex with people he doesn't know really well. Unfortunately, there's a lot of people in this business who just don't think. They figure, 'it won't hapen to me!' but the joke's on them. And it's a cruel joke, 'cause it kills you. What do I do? I wear a 'wet suit'!"

GENE SIMMONS (KISS): "Promiscuity has decreased somewhat as a result of AIDS. You just have to be more careful, that's all. But one of the reasons rock stars get into rock and roll in the first place is for the girls. Any girl who falls for a rock god... if she's realistic, she's gonna have a good time with it. If she's not realistic, she's gonna get hurt (emotionally)."

Susan Carson/Artist Publications

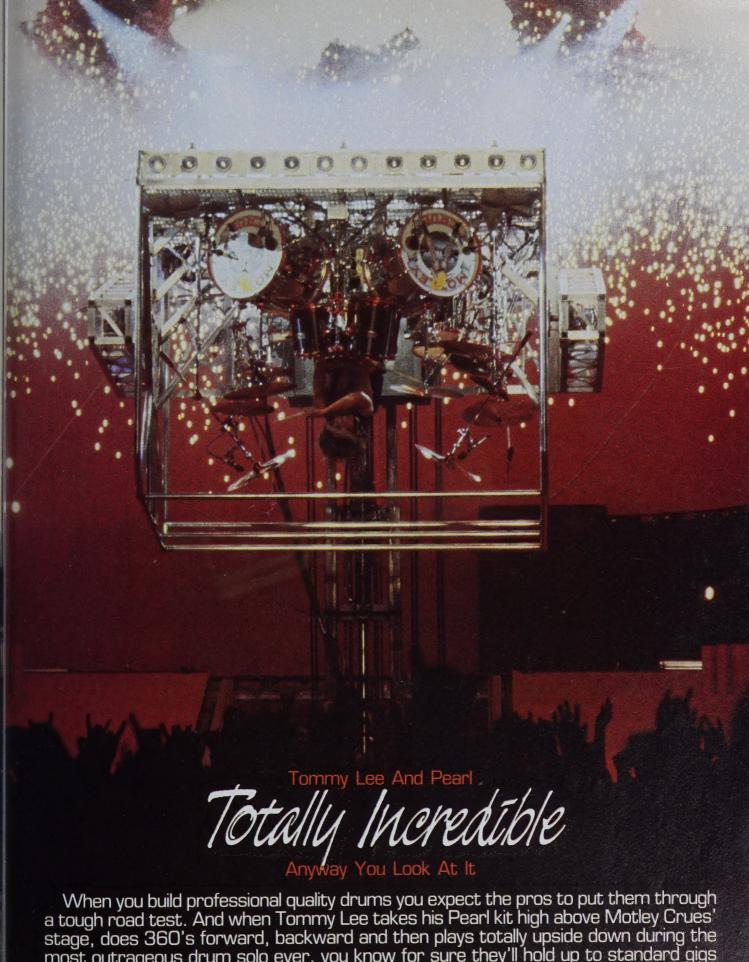
AXL ROSE (GUNS N' ROSES): "I can't be faithful on tour. AIDS doesn't affect me 'cause I figure there's a twelve-year incubation period, and by then, there will be a cure. Seriously, I just had a complete check-up and tests, and I was pretty scared about the results. I was really relieved when I found out I was okay."

KELLY NICKELS (L.A. GUNS): "It definitely changes things. You go to a club and you get drunk and wanna be with a girl and then you think, 'what if they tell me I had it?' It's real scary. Things used to be a lot easier before we had to worry about catching AIDS.

ROBERT SWEET (STRYPER): "The only way to avoid AIDS is to abstain from sex before marriage. That's not only safe — it's proper." □

Stryper: "The only way to avoid AIDS is to abstain from sex before marriage."





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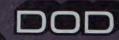
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